



Pulse
of Wabash

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Do you have a passion for writing, photography and local sports? The Wabash Plain Dealer is now accepting applications for paid stringers for the upcoming spring sports season. To apply, email your writing and photography clips, cover letter, resume and list of references to rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

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Indiana 114 to close for bridge maintenance near North Manchester

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has announced the closure of Indiana 114 near North Manchester for bridge maintenance. Crews will be working between Gene Stratton Porter Road and Rock-Springs Pike. Work is scheduled to begin on or after Thursday, May 20

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Local law enforcement agencies increasing patrols

WPD, WCSD, ISP participating in Click It or Ticket through June 6

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

As is commonplace over the lead-up to Memorial Day weekend, several local law enforcement agencies will be conducting increased patrols. On Monday, Wabash Police

Department (WPD) public information officer Capt. Matt A. Benson said they were starting their participation in the national Click It or Ticket Enforcement campaign, along with over 200 other agencies throughout the state.

"Drivers and all passengers must have a seat belt on," said Benson. "Drivers can also be cited for each unbuckled passenger under the age of 16 and children under eight must be properly restrained in a federally approved child or booster seat."

Benson said this enhanced enforcement period will continue through Sunday, June 6.

"Officers will be writing

citations to anyone caught not wearing a seat belt," said WPD patrolman Colin Gouveia.

The high-visibility patrols are paid for with funds from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), administered by the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI).

On Tuesday, Indiana State Police (ISP) public information officer Sgt. Tony Slocum

Public Information Officer stated the Peru Post would also be participating in the patrols during this time.

On Tuesday, ICJI communications director Ben Gavelek said other than the WPD, the only other agency participating in the Wabash County is the Wabash County Sheriff's Department (WCSD).

See **PATROLS**, page A10

NMPL installs flat playground

Activity track, four square, standing long jump, darts, more available

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

As visitors approach the North Manchester Public Library (NMPL), they may now notice an entire playground under their feet.

Earlier this month, the NMPL announced they would soon be installing the flat playground on the Market Street walkway, said adult department manager and marketing coordinator Jeanna Hann.

Hann said the new installation would feature an eight-piece activity track, Four Square, standing long jump, dartboard, Twister and Snakes and Ladders.

The new flat playground was finally installed Thursday, May 13. Hann said the NMPL plans to incorporate the playground into summer reading programming and activities.

"This is going to be a fantastic outdoor play space for library users and the community at large," said children's department head Sarah Morbitzer. "We want to promote outdoor activity and inter-generational play. The wide variety of games in our flat playground provide numerous options for fun with family and friends. We invite the community to make use of the playground even when the library is closed on weekends, late evenings and holidays. We envision families picnicking on our lawn and having fun on the playground. When the Blocher Community Room re-opens for public events, users will



Provided photo

The standing long jump is one of the stations at the new flat playground.

enjoy having this option for children and teens attending showers, birthday parties, graduations, etc."

Hann said the Flat Play-

ground has been funded by the Bev Westendorf Memorial Fund, the Martin Memorial Fund, Friends of the Library, and the Fun Run.

"We are grateful to the community members who have generously given towards

See **PLAYGROUND**, page A10

MSD Summer Food Program looks to serve community

The new initiative will provide free breakfasts, lunches weekly from June 9 to July 28

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

This summer, a new MSD Summer Food Program will ensure that local students won't have to wonder where their weekday breakfasts and lunches will come from.

Next month will mark the first time MSD will be offering a Summer Food Program, said MSD director of communications and community engagement Laura Langebartels.

Langebartels said the program will provide weekly meals free of charge for children ages 1 through 18 throughout the MSD area.

"While the initial goal is to serve the families of the MSD area, families will not need to show proof of residency, enrollment or anything like that. We hope to serve our community through this program," said Langebartels.

Langebartels said throughout the summer, families may pick up five day's worth of breakfasts and lunches for each child in their household that meets the age criteria from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays from June 9 to July 28 at Northfield High School, 154 W. 200 North, and Southwood High School on the east side of the building, 564 Indiana 124.

Langebartels said families do not need to sign up in advance for the meals.

"As a new program, staff will be experimenting during

See **FOOD**, page A10

Addictions Impact Panel to share personal experiences

Shawn Light, Katina Schram will be panelists at June 5 event

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

It's one thing to hear about the addiction crisis in America from statistics, but it's quite another when someone can provide insight from their own

experience.

In that spirit, the Wabash County Drug Steering Committee and the Prevention Subcommittee will be hosting an Addictions Impact Panel next month, said chair Mike Keaffaber.

Doors will open to the public at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, June 5 at the Honeywell Center's Ford Theatre, 275 W. Market St. Resource tables and local

community partners will be available in the lobby. The panel will begin at 7 p.m. Door prizes including gift cards to local businesses will also be available.

"The event will include local community members who will be speaking about their personal experiences with addiction and how it has affected them," said Keaffaber. "Community partners will also be present to

share information, resources and support before and after the event."

Keaffaber said panelists at the event will be Shawn Light and Katina Schram.

"Both speakers have been personally affected by addiction and want to share their stories hoping to spread an important message about substance abuse," said Keaffaber. Keaffaber said the master of

ceremonies will be White's Residential and Family Services student chaplain Shane Chellis, who will also share his story.

"The Prevention Committee hopes this event provides hope to those dealing with the issue of addiction, whether it is personally dealing with addiction, a family member or friend who

See **ADDICTION**, page A3

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Manchester University to honor Ford, Robinson at Commencement

Because of COVID-19, attendance is limited to students and their guests

By ANNE GREGORY

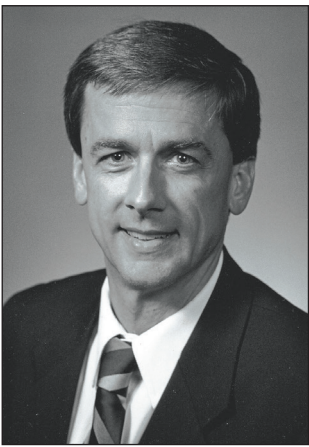
Manchester University will confer honorary degrees to two recipients at Commencement this year on Saturday, May 22.

Steve Ford will receive an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree. He will address undergraduates during exercises at 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. in Cordier on the North Manchester campus.

A lifelong resident of Wabash, Ford graduated from Wabash High School before earning a degree in electrical engineering from Purdue University. After graduate studies at the University of Illinois, he returned to his hometown to work in the family business, Ford Meter Box Company Inc. As a leading manufacturer of products for the waterworks industry, the company helps deliver clean water critical to public health and economic development across North America and around the world.

Ford worked At Ford Meter Box in the summers during college, learning from and alongside the company's long-time employees. He worked his way up and, through the years, developed experience in information technology, finance and accounting, sales, purchasing and engineering before becoming president and chief executive officer in 2006.

As the leader of Wabash's largest employer, Ford embraces his responsibility as a servant leader. The Ford Meter Box Foundation Inc. is the company's philanthropic arm, and it supports arts and cul-



Provided photo

LEFT: Steve Ford will receive an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree. **RIGHT:** Wendy Robinson will be honored at the graduate and professional commencement exercises.

ture, education, health, youth development and community development. Ford is passionate about the importance of education at every stage and served eight years on the Manchester University Board of Trustees.

Ford's long list of involvements includes the Honeywell Foundation Board, Community Foundation of Wabash County, the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership, the Wabash Area Chamber of Commerce, ARC of Wabash County and the Wabash County United Fund.

Wendy Robinson will be honored at the graduate and professional commencement exercises at 9 a.m. in Cordier.

Robinson, superintendent of Fort Wayne Community Schools (FWCS) from 2003 until her retirement in 2020, is a champion of public education and nationally recognized for her expertise in urban education. In 2018, she was named Indiana Superintendent of the Year and was a finalist for National Superintendent of the Year by the American Association of School Administrators.

Robinson grew up in Fort Wayne. She earned her bachelor's degree from DePauw

University, two master's degrees from Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne, and her Doctor of Education in educational administration and supervision from Ball State University.

Robinson was a member of the inaugural class of Broad Center Fellows, a program designed to prepare and challenge urban school leaders. She has received numerous awards, including the National Alliance of Black School Educators 2009 Joseph E. Hill Superintendent of the Year Award.

She is the former president of the Indiana Urban Superintendent's Association and Learning Forward, a professional association devoted exclusively to those who work in educator professional development.

Robinson will receive a Doctor of Humanities and address remarks to the class.

Because of COVID-19, attendance is limited to students and their guests. Each ceremony will be live-streamed on MU's Facebook page, @ManchesterUniv.

Anne Gregory is the assistant director of media relations in the Office of Strategic Communications at Manchester University.

'Spark a new career path' with an upcoming welding certification program

Classes will take place from 4 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday and Wednesday

STAFF REPORT

Grow Wabash County has announced a welding certificate course to be offered through Ivy Tech Community College starting Tuesday, June 8, according to project manager for marketing and events Chelsea Boulrisse.

This course will be held in the welding lab at Heartland Career Center located at 79 S. 200 West.

Classes will take place from 4 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday and Wednesday through Wednesday, Aug. 11.

Participants will learn

practical welding techniques and procedures as they pertain to various metal types and thicknesses, welding in various positions, kinds of joints and weld characteristics, as well as AWS terminology and symbols.

This course will teach students common gas metal arc welding processes such as short-circuit, spray and GMAW Spray. Students will learn about the basics of the equipment, setup and safety and eventually receive instruction in assembly, fabrication and layout techniques.

The deadline for registration is Monday, May 31.

Tuition for this is free for most participants. There are grant funds available through the state of Indiana's Workforce Ready Grant program, which can be awarded

to participants over the age of 18 that live in Indiana and who possess a high school, HSE or GED, but do not have a degree past high school. There are also scholarships available for Wabash County residents through Grow Wabash County thanks to the generous support of the Community Foundation of Wabash County and the Wabash County United Fund. The application for scholarships and more information can be found on the Grow Wabash County's website at www.growwabashcounty.com/trainingopportunities.

Those interested in registering for the upcoming welding certification course can do so by emailing Heather Vance at hvance6@ivytech.edu or calling 260-355-9462.

Indiana governor's lawyers push challenge to emergency law

By TOM DAVIES
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Lawyers for Gov. Eric Holcomb derided the Indiana attorney general's claim that he can block the governor from asking the courts to stop a new law giving legislators more authority to intervene during public emergencies.

Holcomb's lawyers argue in a Monday court filing that Attorney General Todd Rokita is making "absurd" arguments that he alone has the legal authority to represent the state in court and to decide whether the new law is constitutional.

The legal dispute between the two Republicans stems from Holcomb's lawsuit arguing that the law passed this spring by the GOP-dominated Legislature is unconstitutional because it gives lawmakers a new power to call themselves into a special legislative session during emergencies de-

clared by the governor.

Holcomb's lawyers claim in their Marion County court filing that the governor's office was created by the state constitution to head the executive branch, while the attorney general was created by state law and can't supersede the authority of the governor or the courts.

"It is a legal fiction created by the Attorney General to expand his authority beyond his statutory duties and powers," wrote Holcomb's lawyers, who are from the Indianapolis law firm Lewis Wagner. "This Court, not the Attorney General, is the proper constitutional body to determine whether (the new law) unconstitutionally grants the General Assembly a power exclusively given to the governor by our Constitution."

Rokita's office declined to comment Tuesday, saying it would respond soon in court. Rokita asked Judge P.J. Di-

etrick this month to throw out the governor's lawsuit because Rokita claimed that state law gives him alone the authority to determine whether the governor can even go to court.

Republican legislators backed the bill after criticism from many conservatives over the statewide mask mandate and other COVID-19 restrictions by executive orders for nine months without the Legislature in session. Similar debates are occurring in several other states.

Rokita sought the Republican nomination to run for governor in 2016 but lost to Holcomb and is widely seen as hoping to succeed the term-limited governor after the 2024 election. He said during last year's election campaign that he supported curtailing the governor's emergency powers and he didn't defend Holcomb from criticism of his coronavirus restrictions.

5-Day Weather Summary

Wednesday Mostly Cloudy 79 / 62	Thursday Partly Cloudy 84 / 63	Friday Partly Cloudy 85 / 62	Saturday Partly Cloudy 86 / 64	Sunday Partly Cloudy 87 / 65

Sun and Moon

Today's sunset 8:54 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise 6:24 a.m.

First 5/19	Full 5/26	Last 6/2	New 6/10

Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms, high temperature of 79°, humidity of 57%. South southeast wind 6 to 13 mph. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight with a slight chance of showers, overnight low of 62°. Southeast wind 6 to 11 mph.

Salamonie to hold Summer Day Camp and Family Overnight

Camping families should plan to bring their tents and camping gear

STAFF REPORT

Upper Wabash Interpretive Services will hold a Summer Day Camp and Family Overnight program from Thursday, June 17 to Friday, June 18 at 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews, according to interpretive naturalist Teresa Rody.

Participants may expect forest discovery, hiking, live animals, crafts, games, water fun, canoeing and evening activities for camping families. Camping families should plan to bring their

tents and camping gear.

Campers from ages 7 to 12 need to bring their lunches each day.

On Thursday, June 17, meet from 1:30 to 4 p.m. for the day camp portion. Activities will resume from 7 to 8 p.m. for a Sound Bite program.

On Friday, June 18, meet from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The cost is \$50 per child for both days and \$30 for one day. Additional siblings per family will receive a \$5 discount.

A small snack will be provided each day.

"Note that details of this event may be subject to change based on the state's response to COVID-19," said Rody.

Advance registration is required by calling 260-468-2127.

Kiwanis Indiana Foundation, Wabash Kiwanis Club announce scholarship recipient

Emma Brainard of Northfield High School has been awarded \$1,000

STAFF REPORT

The Wabash Kiwanis Club and Kiwanis Indiana Foundation has announced that Emma Brainard has been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from the Kiwanis Indiana Foundation to attend an Indiana university of her choice, according to Wabash Kiwanis Club president Mike Keaffaber.

Brainard is one of 120 applicants in the state of Indian vying for 24 scholarships worth \$1,000 awarded annually to deserving high school seniors by the Foundation.

Brainard is a senior at Northfield High School. Brainard has been active in many activities including leadership roles in Key Club and Student Council along with being a cheerleader. She has participated in other activities at school and in the community.

The Kiwanis Indiana Foundation is funded by

donations from Kiwanis Club and members and other sources.

"The Foundation also funds worthwhile service projects in the form of grants to local clubs, said Keaffaber. "The Wabash Kiwanis Club is part of an international service organization of men and women. Our club has participated in fundraising for parks and many organizations serving children."

Keaffaber said other projects to benefit children locally and throughout the world include Pancake Day, on June 12, the Riley Bucket Brigade on July 31 and the 4-H Fair.

Keaffaber said the group meets for lunch and a program at noon Tuesdays in the Honeywell Center. Visitors are welcome any time.

"Our defining statement is, 'Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving

the world, one child and one community at a time.' We believe that one volunteer can make a difference in the life of a child," said Keaffaber.

For more information, email mikekeaffaber@gmail.com.

IN BRIEF

Wabash VFW Post No. 286 to hold a fish fry on Friday

The Wabash Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post No. 286 will host a fish fry from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, May 21 at 3678 W. Old 24, according to Dan Ford.

The menu will include hand beer-battered fish, French fries, a choice of pasta salad or coleslaw, and hush puppies.

The cost will be \$9 per person. The event will be open to the public. Carryout will be available.

For more information, call 260-563-2463.

Wabash Art Guild members' artworks on display

STAFF REPORT

Works by several members of the Wabash Art Guild are on display throughout the next few weeks, according to Lori Heeter.

Paintings by Hope Rider and Carol Joy Madsen are on display from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday throughout May at the Congregational Christian Church Fellowship Hall Lobby Gallery, 310 N. Walnut St., North Manchester.

Susan Ring's watercolor, "Star Magnolia" is on display this month, in the lobby of Beacon Credit Union, 1301 Indiana 114, W. South St., North Manchester.

Paintings by Brenda Ramseier and Ring are included in the Heartland Artists' Small Wonders 2021 Annual Exhibit, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays through May 29 at Heartland Artists' Gallery, 101 N. Michigan St., Plymouth. For more information, visit heartlandartgallery.com.

Terry Pulley has paintings entered in the Lakeland Art Association's Annual Juried Spring Show from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays through June 12 at Lakeland Art Gallery, 302 E. Winona Ave., Warsaw. Plein Air paintings by Pulley are on display from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays and 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. during "Second Saturdays" with special events at Gallery 15, 15 E. Main St., Peru. Pulley's art may also be viewed as a "Participating Artist" at the Paradigm Gallery, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, 311 E. Main St., Fort Wayne, and at The Eclectic Shoppe, 42 W. Canal St., Wabash.

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Obituaries

Frances Slocum Chapter of the DAR holds May meeting

The next meeting will be Saturday, June 12

STAFF REPORT

The monthly meeting of the Frances Slocum Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) took place on Tuesday, May 11 at the Grandstaff-Hentgen Activity Room, according to regent Barbara Regent.

Special guests were Jennifer Long-Dillon and Richard Baker.

The meeting opened with the DAR ritual, followed by devotions by Amiss.

The May President General’s message from Denise Doring VanBuren was shared by Joyce Joy-Baker.

“I ask that you help us grow – and not to simply expand the roster of a lineage society. I ask because what we do matters – and because I believe that our cause has never been more important to America’s future. We live in a time when far too few people appreciate the values on which our nation was established – help us to spread an appreciation for our many blessings by welcoming at least one new member to DAR,” said Doring VanBuren.

The National Defender report was given by Kie Kirk on May dates of note. On May 10, 1869, The Union Pacific and Central Pacific railroads join at Promontory Summit,

Utah creating a transcontinental railroad. On May 11, 1869, Minnesota enters the Union as the 32nd state. On May 13, 1607, Captain John Smith and company drop anchor on a marshy peninsula in the James River and the next day begin building Jamestown, the first permanent English settlement in the New World.

Committee Minutes were on American Indian, Constitution, Conservation, American Flag and Women’s Issue.

The chapter voted to purchase two Hero Memorial Commemorative Nameplates at Visit Wabash County for Verna Ulrey Kitson and Samuel Burdge. The program was presented by Jennifer Long-Dillon, Tourism Manager, Visit Wabash County, on “Showcasing Wabash County.”

The next meeting of the Frances Slocum Chapter will be at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, June 12 at Country Family Restaurant, 410 West Main Street, North Manchester. Prospective members and guests are always welcome to attend. DAR membership is open to any woman 18 years of age, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution. Those having questions about their family history lineage information may contact www.dar.org or Linda Thompson at 260-563-4661 or Amiss at 260-982-4376.

ADDICTION

From page A1

is struggling,” said Keaffaber.

On Tuesday, Keaffaber said they held a similar community event in 2019 featuring speaker Nathan Harmon, but were forced to cancel last year’s event due to COVID-19.

“Our community event is a culmination of the programs we take to the junior and senior high schools,” said Keaffaber.

This event has been created by the Wabash County Drug Steering Committee, Prevention Subcommittee, and is being sponsored by

the Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) and Parkview Wabash Hospital in partnership with the Community Health Improvement Program.

On Tuesday, Wabash County DCS local office director Julie A. Hobbs said she hoped these “personal accounts of substance use and recovery” would “instill hope for others.”

“There will be numerous community partners providing information on prevention and materials on the use of specific substances and their effects,” said Hobbs.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplainedealer.com.

PULSE

From page A1

and will last until early July. During the closure, motorists should use the posted detour of Indiana 13, Indiana 16 and Indiana 105.

Wabash County Animal Shelter partnership to pair emerging readers with dogs, cats

The local Literacy for Companionship program will be held on the third Thursday of each month, with the next one scheduled for May 20 at the Wabash County Animal Shelter, 810 Manchester Ave. The time will be split into 30-minute shifts from 4 to 6 p.m., with four children scheduled per session. There is no cost for the program and the parents or guardians will be with the children at all times. For more information, call 260-563-3511.

Second Harvest to hold a tailgate food distributions

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana has planned tailgate food distributions for 11 a.m. Wednesday, May 26 and Wednesday, June 23 at Bachelor Creek Church of Christ, 2147 Indiana 15; and noon Wednesday, June 9 at Manchester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley St, North Manchester. For more information, visit www.curehunger.org, classy.org/campaign/hunger-action-month/c299182 or <https://www.givepulse.com/group/203410>.

Salamonie and Mississinewa lakes to hold free fishing derbies

Children ages 2 to 14 and their adults are invited to Free Fishing Derbies at Salamonie and Mississinewa lakes on Saturday, June 5, which is an Indiana Free Fishing Day for all state residents. Youth age categories are 2 to 5; 6 to 10; and 11 to 14, with first-, second- and third-prize winners for the largest fish in each age category. Sign-in begins at 8:30 a.m. Rules and regulations will be announced at that time. Youth fishing time will be 9 to 10:30 a.m. An Adult Fishing Contest will be held from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Awards will follow. Children and their adults must be present to win awards. Advance registration is requested by calling 260-468-2127.

Honeywell Summer Arts Camps announced for grades K-12

Registration is open for Honeywell Summer Theatre and Visual Art Camps for students in grades K-12, which begin Monday, June 7, and offer in-person, fully immersive programs led by art and theater teachers and professionals. The two-week Theatre Camps for grades K-5 will take place in the afternoon from Monday, June 7 through Friday, June 18. The three-week Theatre Camps for sixth through 12th grades will take place in the afternoon from Monday, June 7 through Friday, June 25. The one-week Visual Art Camps will take place in the morning

from Monday, June 7 through Friday, June 11. Registration is \$75 for art and \$90 for theatre. Financial assistance is available. For more information, visit HoneywellArts.org/ camp or call 260-563-1102.

WACCY Golf Outing hitting the greens June 9

Registration is now open for Grow Wabash County’s annual WACCY Golf Outing on Wednesday, June 9 at the Honeywell Golf Course, 3360 Niccum Road. Registration is \$360 per four-person team, which includes 18 holes of golf with a cart, access to a catered lunch from Miller’s Merry Manor and the chance to win a whole assortment of games and prizes. This year’s outing will offer a morning session – with a 7:30 a.m. start – and afternoon – with a 1 p.m. start – flights on a first-come, first-serve basis. There will be a limit of 18 teams per flight. For more information, visit www.growwabashcounty.com/waccy2021, email marketing@growwabashcounty.com or call 260-563-5258.

Art Studio Trolley No. 85 tour on sale

The Art Studio Trolley No. 85 Tour will take place from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 12, is \$30 per person, and will begin at the Visit Wabash County Welcome Center, 221 S. Miami St. Tickets for the Art Studio Trolley No.85 Tour are \$30 per person and are all-inclusive. Payment is due upon registration. To purchase tickets online, visit www.visitwabashcounty.com/trolley-tours, stop in the Welcome Center at 221 S.

Miami St., or call 260-563-7171.

Pancake Day planned for June 12

The Wabash Kiwanis Club’s Pancake Day 2021 event will take place from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 12 at the newly renovated Bruce Ingraham building at the Wabash County Fairgrounds, located just off of Gillen Avenue. Pancakes, with or without blueberries, will be available, along with sausages and drinks. Tickets will be \$8 at the door and \$7 in advance for adults 13 years and older and \$5 at the door and \$4 in advance for children ages 6 to 12 years. Admission for the event will be free for children 5 years and younger. Sponsorship opportunities for businesses for Pancake Day are available by email at donnasiders@hotmail.com or by calling 260-571-1892. Sponsors would receive complimentary tickets to the event and on-site recognition in exchange for their support for only \$150.

Salamonie Lake workdays continue throughout summer

Salamonie Lake’s Upper Wabash Interpretive Services, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews, will host a variety of volunteer work-related activities. Check-in and instructions will be available at the Interpretive and Nature Center. The volunteer workdays will continue throughout the summer at 9 a.m. Monday, June 21; 9 a.m. Monday, July 26; 9 a.m. Monday, Aug. 16; and 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 25. For more information, visit 260-468-2127.

Jeffrey Dean Bever

May 15, 1961 – May 16, 2021



Jeffrey Dean Bever, 60, of Wabash, Indiana, died 5:15 pm, Sunday, May 16, 2021, in Wabash, Indiana. He was born on May 15, 1961, in Wabash, Indiana, to Rex and Wilma (Yocum) Bever.

Jeff was a 1979 graduate of Southwood High School and attended the Purdue University Ag Short Course. He married Kara Short in Warsaw, Indiana on Aug. 9, 2008. Jeff was a machinist at Ford Meter Box in Wabash for 34 years. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, being outdoors, making knives, and was an avid Indianapolis Colts and Indiana Hoosier fan. He loved his dogs, Cooper and Sophie.

He is survived by his wife, Kara Bever; three children, Zachary (Jasmine Whitmer) Bever, Katie McCauley and Kasey Long; father, Rex Bever;

two sisters, Cindy (Randy) Renbarger and Jeanne (Kevin) Atkinson; mother-in-law, Marcia Short; and three brothers-in-law, Kirk (Jody) Short, Kyle (Barb) Short and Kent Short, all of Wabash, Indiana; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his mother.

Funeral services will be 10 am, Saturday, May 22, 2021, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with David Phillips officiating. Burial will be in Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash. Friends may call 2-7 pm Friday, at the funeral home.

Preferred memorials are the Animal Shelter of Wabash County or the Izaak Walton League.

The memorial guest book for Jeff may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

William ‘Bill’ Fleck Jr.

Sept. 8, 1936 – May 17, 2021

William “Bill” Fleck Jr., 84, Silver Lake, died May 17, 2021. Born in Wabash, Sept. 8, 1936 to William and Catherine (Murphy) Fleck Sr.

Bill is survived his wife, Mary Kathryn Fleck; stepsons, Jeff (Cindy), Steven (Lenka), Larry, and Todd Ruffner; step-daughters, Tracy (Glenn) Hobbs and Carrie Ruffner; seven grandchildren; many great-grandchildren.

dren.

Visitation, May 19, 2021 from 4-7 p.m. at McKee Mortuary, 1401 S.R. 114 W., North Manchester. Funeral Mass, May 20, 2021 at 12 noon. Visitation at 11 am at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, 1203 S.R. 114 E., North Manchester. Burial at Falls Cemetery, Wabash.

Arrangements are entrusted to McKee Mortuary.

Eugene ‘Gene’ Dyson

Aug. 27, 1945 – May 16, 2021

Eugene “Gene” Dyson, 75, of Wabash, Indiana, died 1:25 am, Sunday, May 16, 2021, at Parkview Wabash Hospital. He was born on Aug. 27, 1945, in Wabash, Indiana, to Raymond and Wanda (Thomas) Dyson.

Funeral services will be 10 am, Thursday, May 20, 2021, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral

Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with Solomon David and Aaron McClary officiating. Burial will be in Marion National Cemetery, Marion, Indiana. Friends may call 2–6 pm, Wednesday at the funeral home.

The memorial guest book for Gene may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Reginald ‘Reggie’ Clark

Sept. 12, 1946 – May 14, 2021

Reginald “Reggie” Clark, 74, North Manchester, passed away May 14, 2021. The only child of Earl P. and Georgiadee (Stucker) Clark, Reggie was born in North Manchester on Sept. 12, 1946.

Reggie is survived by his son, Stacey (Joelle) Clark; grandchildren, Trey and Mason Clark; and his many

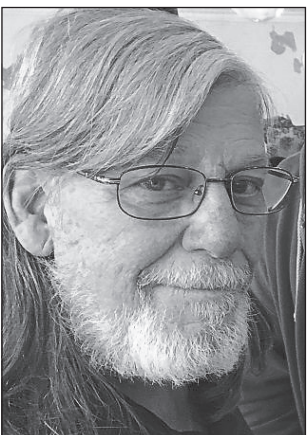
friends.

Visitation Sunday, May 23, 2021 from 2 to 4 p.m. at McKee Mortuary, 1401 State Road 114 West, North Manchester. Burial at Oaklawn Lawn Cemetery, 600 Beckley Street, North Manchester, will be at a later date.

Final arrangements are entrusted to McKee Mortuary.

Charles ‘Chuck’ R. Bair

April 11, 1951 – May 16, 2021



Charles “Chuck” R. Bair, 70, of Wabash, Indiana, died 6:26 pm, Sunday, May 16, 2021, at Ashton Creek Health and Rehab Center in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He was born on April 11, 1951, along with his twin brother Richard, in Mishawaka, Indiana, to Joseph L. and Mary Margaret (Miller) Bair.

Growing up, Chuck participated in several church activities, choir, and Boy Scouts. His family eventually moved to Royal Oak, Michigan, where he graduated from Royal Oak Dondero High School in 1969. Chuck then enlisted in the Marines and was sent to the Vietnam War for a two-year tour. After his discharge in 1971, he started attending Grand Valley State College. Upon graduation, he landed a teaching job at Lagro Elementary in the fall of 1975. There he met Sharon Dean (a fellow teacher). They married on March 31st, 1979. Once Lagro Elementary closed in 1980, he started teaching at Sharp Creek Elementary. That is where he remained until retirement. Teaching wasn’t just a job for him – it was a passion. He not only taught, but also worked with after school programs. These included Odyssey of the Mind (later Destination Imagination) and robotics teams. He and 4 other educators founded the summer school program Science In Motion (where there were three levels, grouped by age). These programs enabled students to travel and camp all over the US. Science In Motion was a great experience for the many students who participated over several years. Chuck loved sports and coached his daughters’ basketball and soccer teams, along with a girls summer softball league, and elementary girls basketball and elementary boys basketball and football teams.

He rooted for Purdue in football and basketball; professionally, he backed Detroit teams: Lions, Red Wings, and Tigers. With his family, Chuck attended the Wabash First United Methodist Church, where he was a mentor for several confirmands throughout the years, taught Sunday

School, and was a member of several committees. He enjoyed family vacations with his wife and kids, primarily to Brown County and Disney World. His biggest joy in recent years has been his granddaughter, Eleanor. They enjoyed playing on “their” swing set and exploring outdoors, reading and playing imaginary games indoors, and taking drives around Wabash in his truck.

He is survived by his wife, Sharon Bair of Wabash; two daughters, Jessi (Chris) Bair-Wilkening of Wabash, and Erica Bair of Indianapolis, Indiana; granddaughter, Eleanor Wilkening of Wabash; four brothers, Richard Bair of Cleveland, Ohio, Mark (Kathie) Bair and Jack (Fawn) Bair, both of Warren, Michigan, and Dan Bair of Farmington Hills, Michigan; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Michael Bair; sister-in-law, Kim Bair; and his father and mother in-law, Thomas & Virginia Dean.

Funeral services will be 10:30 am, Tuesday, May 25, 2021, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with Erica Bair and Pastor Nathan Whybrew officiating. Burial will be in Falls Cemetery, Wabash. Friends may call 2-7 pm Monday, at the funeral home. The family requests masks be worn.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Robotics Team at Sharp Creek Elementary, Wabash Carnegie Library, and (per Chuck’s final wishes) his granddaughter’s college fund.

The memorial guest book for Chuck may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Salamonie to hold Summer Forest Camp

Salamonie Lake will be hosting “a unique outdoor day camp” from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday, June 28 to Friday, July 2 at Upper Wabash Interpretive Services, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Children ages 7 to 13 are welcome. Limited space is available. The cost per child is \$60 and \$55 for each additional sibling. Register and pay by Monday, June 14 and save \$10 per child. For more information and registration, call 260-468-2127.

INDOT begins Indiana 13 and 15 Wabash River bridgework

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) has announced bridge maintenance work over the Wabash River on Indiana 13 and Indiana 15 in Wabash. The northbound lanes between Lafontaine Avenue and Miami Street will be closed to traffic. Motorists should use the posted detour of Lafontaine Avenue, Huntington Street and Market Street. The southbound lanes between Fulton Street and Dimension Avenue will be reduced to one lane because of the work. The work is set to wrap up in July.

Indiana 15 lane closures to last through mid-summer

Alternating lane closures are planned for Indiana 15. The work is happening between Indiana 13 and Wedcor Avenue. Widths will be restricted to 13 feet during the project and that loads wider than 13 feet should

seek an alternate route using the nearest numbered state, U.S., or interstate routes. The work is scheduled to wrap up by mid-summer.

Downtown Wabash Farmers’ Market running every Saturday

The Downtown Wabash Farmers’ Market continues its 2021 season from 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays through Saturday, Sept. 26 in the Honeywell Center/Wabash Elks parking lot on the corner of Cass and Market St. Vendors are still being accepted for full-season, half-season and one-time rates. To become a vendor for the 2021 Market, visit WabashMarketplace.org/farmers-market or call 260-563-0975. For more information about Downtown Wabash Farmers’ Market, visit WabashMarketplace.org/farmers-market.

Honeywell Ladies Golf Association season continues

The Tuesday Honeywell Ladies Golf Association (LGA) will begin their season with a 9 a.m. shotgun Tuesdays, according to Lana Garber. The yearly dues of \$15 will be taken then. New members are welcome. Arrive at 8:30 a.m. All Tuesday events are scrambles. Register in the clubhouse by noon Monday.

Editor’s note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplainedealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

Squandered chances in New York

‘We don’t want women to die in childbirth,’ Kathryn Garcia, who is running for mayor of New York, told me on March 30. The former head of

Kathryn Lopez



sanitation in the city, she just got a surprise New York Times endorsement, raising her stature in the race to succeed Bill De Blasio. I encountered her when she was giving remarks outside Manhattan’s flagship Planned Parenthood in lower Manhattan. When I asked why she would choose an abortion clinic to talk about such a unifying issue as maternal health care, she repeated a few times that she is for a woman’s right to choose. She also insisted that Planned Parenthood provides an “enormous” number of other services.

Garcia was adopted as an infant. She is in a unique position to change how our national debate about abortion functions. She could tell the girls going into Planned Parenthood for abortions to rethink their options. They could choose adoption and allow the next Kathryn to be born – if we’d rally behind real options.

Politics today isn’t considered noble work, but it should be. People who feel called to public service are a necessary blessing. In recent

years, politics has become a circus, but even here in New York, in our lifetimes, we’ve had mayors who were accessible and reasonable, regardless of whether you supported them. You don’t have to agree on everything to be friends and collaborators.

What was most striking about my brief encounter with Garcia was what different planets we seem to live on – those who support legal abortion and those of us who consider it a massive ongoing tragedy that shouldn’t be ignored.

Garcia also had a revered midwife introduce her, who, in her remarks, expressed gratitude for the Reproductive Health Act signed and celebrated by Gov. Andrew Cuomo. The abortion expansion act made it possible for midwives to be abortion providers. Like doctors actively ending life, this seems so contrary to the vocation of the midwife.

Back when he was running for the Democratic nomination for president, another mayoral candidate, Andrew Yang, talked about the tragedy of abortion. He’s having to explain and walk back his words now, under criticism. But this is how extreme politics has gotten. How different some women’s lives would be, if they knew they would be celebrated as heroines if they chose adoption for their babies. Of course, it’s terrifying to be unexpectedly pregnant. And we

live in a culture where abortion is often the seemingly expected response. At that same Planned Parenthood where Garcia was speaking, I’ve seen too many young women filled with fear and pain. They deserve better. Garcia is a mother who was adopted in her earliest days. She could do something amazing for New York City and for the whole violent culture we all live in if she wanted to be a transformational candidate. But so far, she doesn’t seem willing.

When there is violence on the street, we should think about the violence that happens inside an abortion clinic. We need to recognize mothers as mothers, and not be part of the pressure to end the lives of their children. We can be pro-choice or pro-life and work together to see that there is informed consent and real choices. Kathryn Garcia has not given any indication she has a heart to be that kind of leader, but what a mercy it would be if she chose to be. New trails would be blazed, and new lives would be saved.

Kathryn Jean Lopez is senior fellow at the National Review Institute, editor-at-large of National Review magazine and author of the new book “A Year With the Mystics: Visionary Wisdom for Daily Living.” She is also chair of Cardinal Dolan’s pro-life commission in New York. She can be contacted at klopez@nationalreview.com.

Communion wars: Doctrine, politics and eternal judgment

Archbishop Joseph Cordileone leads the Archdiocese of San Francisco, a symbolic city in debates about modern American culture.

But what matters the most, as tensions rise among Catholic leaders, is that Cordileone is House Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s hometown bishop. Thus, it’s hard for politicians to avoid blunt passages in his new pastoral letter, “Before I Formed You in the Womb I Knew You.”

Citing centuries of church doctrine, the archbishop argued that Catholics who “reject the teaching of the Church on the sanctity of human life and those who do not seek to live in accordance with that teaching should not receive the Eucharist. It is fundamentally a question of integrity: to receive the Blessed Sacrament in the Catholic liturgy is to espouse publicly the faith and moral teachings of the Catholic Church, and to desire to live accordingly.”

There is, he added, “a great difference between struggling to live according to the teachings of the Church and rejecting those teachings. ... In the case of public figures who profess to be Catholic and promote abortion, we are not dealing with a sin committed in human weakness or a moral lapse: This is a matter of persistent, obdurate and public rejection of Catholic teaching. This adds an even greater responsibility to the role of the Church’s pastors in caring for the salvation of souls.”

Citing a famous example, Cordileone recalled when

former New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani received Holy Communion during a 2008 Mass led by Pope Benedict XVI. This caused scandal and, according to the late Cardinal Edward Egan, violated an agreement that Giuliani would not receive the Sacrament because of his public support for abortion rights and other clashes with doctrine.

The big issue, as U.S. bishops prepare for June discussions of “Eucharistic coherence,” is not how to handle a former New York City mayor. The question is whether bishops can address their own divisions about the status of pro-abortion-rights Catholics such as Pelosi and President Joe Biden. While vice president, Biden also performed two same-sex marriage rites.

San Diego Bishop Robert McElroy, firing back at Cordileone in America magazine, stressed that the “Eucharist must never be instrumentalized for a political end. ... But that is precisely what is being done in the effort to exclude Catholic political leaders who oppose the church’s teaching on abortion and civil law. The Eucharist is being weaponized and deployed as a tool in political warfare. This must not happen.”

Meanwhile, the prefect of the Vatican’s Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith warned the leader of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops that these issues could become a “source of discord rather than unity within the episcopate” and among all American Catholics.

Writing to Los Angeles Archbishop Jose Gomez, Cardinal Luis F. Ladaria said it’s important to focus on the “broad context of worthiness for the reception of holy Communion on the

part of all the faithful,” not just politicians. The Jesuit’s leaked letter has been discussed in America magazine, The Pillar, National Catholic Register and elsewhere.

The bottom line, said Ladaria, is that any effective “policy in this area requires that dialogue occurs in two stages: first among the bishops themselves, and then between bishops and Catholic pro-choice politicians within their jurisdictions.”

Thus, a key figure in this drama will be the new leader of Biden’s home diocese in Delaware. In his introductory press conference, Bishop-elect William Koenig told reporters he prays for Biden “every day” and would “certainly be open to having a conversation in the future. ... As a bishop, I’m called to teach the fullness and the beauty of the Catholic faith.”

As for Cordileone, he stressed that many Catholics fail to grasp how defending unborn life – “a moral absolute” – is linked to discussions of immigration, economic justice, the environment and other examples of what Pope Francis calls “throw-away culture.”

Rejecting these life-and-death truths, said Cordileone, will have eternal consequences.

“When public figures identify themselves as Catholics and yet actively oppose one of the most fundamental doctrines of the Church ... we pastors have a responsibility both to them and to the rest of our people. Our responsibility to them is to call them to conversion and to warn them that if they do not amend their lives, they must answer before the tribunal of God.”

Terry Mattingly leads GetReligion.org and lives in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. He is a senior fellow at the Overby Center at the University of Mississippi.

COVID vaccine hesitancy remains a ‘major barrier’ in rural areas, new CDC study finds

By **MICHAEL WILNER**
McClatchy Washington Bureau (TNS)

WASHINGTON — Coronavirus vaccine coverage is substantially higher in urban areas across the country than in rural communities, where hesitancy remains a “major barrier” for public health officials, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found in a new study published Tuesday.

The CDC examined county-level vaccination data across all 50 states from December through early April, finding that 38.9 percent of residents in rural counties had received at least one vaccine dose, compared with 45.7 percent in urban counties.

Rural residents were also more likely to have traveled outside of their county to get a vaccine dose.

“This was true for counties across the country, across all age groups, and among men and women,” CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky told reporters.

The data also showed that women were taking the vaccine at higher rates than men, both in rural and in urban areas.

The Biden administration has shifted its response to the pandemic in recent days as more Americans have gotten vaccinated. Last week, the CDC issued dramatic new guidance informing fully vaccinated people that they are protected against the coronavirus without having to wear masks, both indoors and out.

But with vaccine rates consistently lower in rural com-



Katheryn Houghton / KHN / TNS

Dawn Stratton, a registered nurse in Kalispell, Montana, administers COVID-19 vaccines at the Flathead County fairgrounds. While Flathead County is seeing demand for vaccinations lag, the mass clinic at the fairgrounds has overall been a place of hope.

munities, the administration has begun boosting federal resources to these areas in an effort to increase uptake. A Biden administration official told reporters Tuesday that the Federal Emergency Management Agency was turning its focus to smaller communities after initially setting up mass vaccination sites in large urban areas.

“Vaccine hesitancy in rural areas is a major barrier that public health practitioners, health care providers, and local partners need to address to achieve vaccination equity,” the CDC report concluded. “Disparities in COVID-19 vaccination between urban and rural communities can hinder progress toward ending the pandemic.”

The divide was stark in several states that had double-digit percentage gaps in the vaccination rates in urban and rural counties.

In Missouri, 31 percent of adults in rural counties had received at least one dose as of April 10, compared with

41.3 percent of adults in urban areas. In Texas, 35.6 percent of rural residents had taken the vaccine compared with 44.1 percent of urban residents. And 31 percent of those in rural counties in Florida had taken at least one dose, versus 44.3 percent of those in Florida’s urban areas.

Dr. Julie Swann, head of the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering at North Carolina State University and an adviser to the CDC during its response to the H1N1 pandemic in 2009, said the new data tracks with other surveys on vaccine hesitancy and with longstanding resistance to mask wearing throughout the pandemic.

“This does confirm what we have seen from individual states that have put data out, that in general, the vaccination rate has been higher in urban areas than in rural,” Swann said. “Similarly, when we’ve seen hesitancy around masks, it’s rarely been in urban areas.”

Changed by pandemic, many workers won’t return to old jobs

By **DEE-ANN DURBIN, STEPHEN GROVES, ALEXANDRA OLSON and JOSEPH PISANI**
Associated Press

There’s a wild card in the push to return to pre-pandemic life: Many workers don’t want to go back to the jobs they once had.

Layoffs and lockdowns, combined with enhanced unemployment benefits and stimulus checks, gave many Americans the time and the financial cushion to rethink their careers. Their former employers are hiring again – and some, like Uber and McDonald’s, are offering higher pay – but workers remain hesitant.

In March, U.S. job openings rose 8 percent to a record 8.1 million, but overall hiring rose less than 4 percent, according to government data.

Nate Mullins quit his job as a bartender last November after clashing with managers over mask rules and worrying that he would spread the coronavirus to his immune-compromised sister.

Mullins’ unemployment checks don’t match what he was making at his Oak Harbor, Washington bar, but they’re enough to get by while he looks for jobs that would provide health care and retirement benefits.

“This opportunity to take a step back and really think

about what you’re doing really changed my mind,” said Mullins, 36. “(It) made me think long-term for the first time.”

Workers like Mullins are one reason U.S. hiring slowed in April. Employers and business groups argue that the \$300-per-week federal unemployment supplement gives recipients less incentive to look for work. Several states have begun requiring those receiving the benefits to show they are actively searching for work, and a few will stop providing the supplement.

But Heidi Shierholz, a senior economist who researches low- and middle-income workers with the Economic Policy Institute, said health concerns and child care responsibilities seem to be the main reasons holding workers back.

In April, she said, at least 25 percent of U.S. schools weren’t offering in-person learning, forcing many parents to stay home. And health concerns could gain new urgency for some workers now that the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has said fully vaccinated people can stop wearing masks in most settings.

Shierholz added that unemployment benefits are designed to give workers the time to find jobs that are better suited to their abilities.

“We want people well-matched to their skills and experience,” she said. “That’s what helps the economy run better.”

Higher pay for workers can push up inflation, which jumped in April as the economy struggled with widespread shortages of raw materials and parts amid a faster-than-expected reopening. If companies are forced to raise prices to cover the cost of higher wages, that could slow the recovery and reduce Americans’ purchasing power.

For now, most economists see labor shortages as likely to be temporary. As more Americans are vaccinated, fewer will worry about getting sick at work. Schools should reopen in September, freeing more parents to return to work, and the extra \$300 in unemployment aid is also set to expire in early September. Those steps should bring more people into the job market.

Sarah Weitzel gave birth to her second child in February 2020. She was on leave from her job at a Victoria’s Secret store in St. Louis when the pandemic threw her life into chaos.

She got a text telling her she was furloughed. Then her husband lost his restaurant job. In financial straits, they sold their home, moved in with friends, survived on unemployment insurance and fell deeper into debt.

Ransomware hits AXA units in Asia, Irish healthcare

By **CHALIDA EKVITTHAYAVECHNUKUL and NICK PERRY**
Associated Press

BANGKOK — The Thai affiliate of Paris-based insurance company AXA said Tuesday it is investigating a ransomware attack by Russian-speaking cybercriminals that has affected operations in Thailand, Malaysia, Hong Kong and the Philippines.

Meanwhile, a cyberattack on a public health provider in New Zealand took down

information systems across five hospitals, forcing staff to cancel some elective surgeries and creating all sorts of other problems.

In Bangkok, Krungthai AXA said it has formed a team with AXA’s Inter Partner Assistance to urgently investigate the problem. It was unclear how long it might take to evaluate the exposure of personal data after the criminals claimed to have stolen 3 terabytes of data including medical records, customer IDs and privileged communications

with hospitals and doctors.

Kanjana Anantasomboon, assistant vice president for corporate and internal communications at Krungthai AXA Life Insurance, said the company handles some of its services inhouse, so only part, she declined to say how much, of its customer data was with Inter Partner Assistance’s claim service.

Other AXA affiliates in the Philippines, Malaysia and Hong Kong did not respond to requests for comment.

AXA Partners, the Par-

is insurer’s international arm, has given few details. It said Sunday that the full impact of the attack was being investigated and that steps would be “taken to notify and support all corporate clients and individuals impacted.” It said the attack was recent, but did not specify when exactly. It said data in Thailand was accessed.

In New Zealand, Waikato District Health Board Chief Executive Kevin Snee said its emergency department was now only taking urgent

patients. He said administrators were working to resolve the issue but he gave no timeline for when the system might be restored.

Dr. Deborah Powell, the national secretary for two unions representing doctors and other health professionals, said the attack hit every part of the operation, with doctors unable to access clinical records to quickly assess patients.

Still, Powell said she didn’t believe patients were at extra risk because staff were using workarounds.

Hospital discharges were being done by hand, and a pager system to alert multiple doctors when a patient suffered a cardiac arrest that was down was replaced by a system of personal mobile numbers. People trying to contact patients were encouraged to try calling their cell phones.

Powell said she was told it was a ransomware attack but she didn’t have all the details. New Zealand’s Ministry of Health described it only as an “attempted cyber incident.”

Manchester baseball concludes season in HCAC opening round

Spartans conclude their season with a record of 19-22

By DILLON BENDER

The No. 4-seeded Earlham College Quakers knocked out the No. 7-seeded Manchester Spartans in the Opening Round best-of-3 series of the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference (HCAC) Tournament this weekend.

The Quakers held on for a 7-6 victory in Game 1 on Friday evening before rallying for a 9-8 triumph in extra innings in Game 2 on Saturday afternoon.

Game 1: Earlham defeated Manchester 7-6.

Game 2: Earlham defeated Manchester 9-8 in 10 innings.

Earlham jumped out to a 7-2 advantage in Game 1 behind strong starting pitching from Joey Gerbus. Gerbus pitched into the eighth inning before the Black and Gold were able to chase him after scoring 3 runs in the frame.

Manchester added another run in the ninth inning;

however, Quaker reliever Michael Domanick was able to strand the tying run at first to secure his eighth save of the season.

Zach White, from Logansport, and Aidan Stevens, from Rensselaer, led the Spartans in Game 1 on Friday with two hits apiece.

Four different Spartans tallied RBI.

Game 2 on Saturday provided all drama that comes with postseason baseball.

The Spartans sprinted out of the gates by scoring a pair of runs in the first and three runs in the fourth.

Jacob Van Pelt, from Parker City and Delta High School, hit a two-run double to left-center to get the Spartans on the board.

RBI singles by Brett Kron, from Cincinnati, Ohio, and Oak Hills High School, and Aidan Stevens, along with a passed ball that allowed a third run to score, gave the Spartans a 5-2 lead through four innings of play.

The Black and Gold added two more runs in the sixth inning via a wild pitch and a sac fly.

Joe Henschel, from Hunt-ertown and Carroll High School, would add an insurance run for Manchester

in the top of the 8th inning after doubling home Paul Barrow, from Bloomington and Bloomington North High School.

Leading 8-3, the game's momentum shifted dramatically as Earlham put together a furious, game-tying rally in the home half of the 8th inning.

After a run scored via a wild pitch, EC's Marc Gendreau hit an RBI double to right. Cameron McCabe then delivered a run-scoring single to right before, Danny Dopp, Earlham's all-time hit and RBI leader, cranked a game-tying two-run home run to center.

Earlham then provided the game's decisive moment in the bottom of the 10th inning. After back-to-back singles, Devin Basley was able to score the game's winning run after an error in the field by the Spartans.

Manchester concludes its season with a record of 19-22. Earlham will advance to next weekend's double-elimination knockout round of the HCAC Tournament.

Dillon Bender is the sports information director for Manchester University.

Spartans turn in a strong showing this weekend

Manchester outdoor track and field participates in St. Francis Fighting Chance Invitational

By DILLON BENDER

A select group of Manchester University outdoor track and field athletes turned in some outstanding performances at the St. Francis Fighting Chance Invitational this weekend.

Joseph Powell, from Beach Park, Illinois, and Zion Benton High School, placed second in the javelin throw over the weekend. His top distance of 51.80m (169' 11") shattered his previous best in the event and ranks fifth all-time in the Manchester record books.

Brian Hochstetler, from Elkhart and Concord High School, added a fourth-place finish in the shot put at St. Francis. Hochstetler's final distance of 15.32m (50' 3 1/4") shattered his previous best in the event. His mark also shot him up to third all-time in the Manchester record books.

Gabe Hendricks, from Fort Wayne and Bishop Luers

High School, added an eighth-place finish in the shot put, setting a new RP with a top mark of 14.14m (46' 4 3/4")

Thomas Richardson, from Ladoga and Southmont High School, placed sixth in the 3000m steeplechase with a time of 9:24.07. That time improves a personal best set earlier this spring and ranks him third on the all-time Manchester top 10 list. The time also stands as the 25th best time in the NCAA Division III ranks this spring.

Enrique Salazar, from Plymouth, placed sixth in the 10,000m with a time of 31:21.72. That time shatters a personal best set earlier this spring by 28 seconds. The new time also shoots Salazar up to third on the all-time Manchester top 10 list.

Tristen Bronaugh, from Crawfordsville, sprinted to an 11th-place finish in the 400m. His time of 52.02 was a new personal record.

On the women's side, Brooke Bouwens, from Clarksville, Michigan, and Lakewood High School, improved her time in the 400m hurdles by .67 seconds this weekend. Bouwens clocked a final time of 1:08.37 at St. Francis, placing fifth in the event and bumping her up to fifth on the all-time Manchester top 10 list.

Adelle Stanko, from Oke-mos, Michigan, followed suit with a new PR in the triple jump. Stanko finished eighth overall this weekend with a final mark of 10.85m (35' 7 1/4"). Stanko's mark improved by .20m and stands as the third-best mark in school history.

Hannah Brubaker, from Goshen and NorthWood High School, placed 21st in the women's 5000m with a time of 18:45.74. Her time set a new personal record by 25 seconds.

Dillon Bender is the sports information director for Manchester University.

RORY'S RETURN

McIlroy the favorite when PGA Championship returns to Kiawah Island

RORY McILROY knows as well as anyone how quickly fortunes can change in golf.

Nine years ago, the last time the PGA Championship was held at Kiawah Island on the South Carolina coast, McIlroy was practically an afterthought. In the three months leading up to the final major of 2012, he had missed the cut in half of the eight tournaments he played and never contended in any of them. And then he set the PGA Championship record with an eight-shot victory.

McIlroy is the favorite when the PGA Championship returns to Kiawah Island, mainly because he ended an 18-month drought by winning the Wells Fargo Championship. Part of those odds can be based on the process of elimination. Few others among the top players in the world have shown much form going into the second major of the year.

Justin Thomas has an ice cold putter. Bryson DeChambeau, after winning at Bay Hill, was another flop at the Masters. Jon Rahm only played once after the Masters and missed the cut for the first time in nearly a year. Dustin Johnson has gone three months since his last top 10. Brooks Koepka will have played only twice in three months because of another injury. Has anyone seen Xander Schauffele or Patrick Cantlay lately?

Only two players — Thomas at No. 3, Collin Morikawa at No. 6 — were in the top 10 when they won PGA Tour events this year. That all can change without notice, of course.

"It's happened to me," McIlroy said. "I hadn't sniffed a weekend of a golf tournament for a couple of months. I guess it turned around quickly. But there's a lot of work in between to get to that point. I think once you see progress and you get that little spark of confidence, then things can start to move pretty quickly."

They moved quickly for Jordan Spieth after a three-year dry run. He has been in the final group three times, ended his drought with a victory at the Texas Open, tied for third at the Masters and now has serious thoughts about winning the PGA Championship for the missing piece to the career Grand Slam. None of the other five players with the career Grand Slam completed it at the PGA Championship.

"Every year I go into that tournament, it's the one that if I could pick one more to win I would pick that one," Spieth said. "While I'm playing the tournament, it hasn't really hit me and added any pressure or anything like that. It just kind of excites me a little bit more going into it."

LASERS

In a nod to technology and with hopes it might help with pace of play, the PGA Championship is the first major to allow distance measuring devices. It should help when a player gets out of position and doesn't have to walk about finding the yardage. But most players expect to still rely on their caddies and the yardage books. Spieth said his caddie might use one for confirmation. Thomas made it clear he doesn't like them. "I think it takes away an advantage of having a good caddie that maybe goes out there and does the work. Between the yardage books, the greens books and range finders, you technically don't even really need to see the place or play a practice round," he said.

YOUTH IS SERVED

Golf has been getting younger for years, but it's really starting to show its age at the PGA Championship. The last four PGA winners, and nine of the last 11, have all been in their 20s. The last major that produced four straight champions in their 20s was the Masters from 1936 through 1939. Then again, 24 of the top 50 players in the world are in their 20s, so maybe the odds are stacked in their favor.

LAST TWO MAJORS

The PGA Championship in August used to be the final qualifying event for the Ryder Cup every other year. In May, it has become the final qualifying event for the U.S. Open and the British Open. After the PGA, the top 60 in the world ranking are exempt for the U.S. Open, while the top 50 in the world ranking are exempt for the British Open. Some big names are on the bubble for both of them. Jason Day, who has qualified for every major the last 11 years, was at No. 62 in the world. Bubba Watson was outside the top 50. He is played in every British Open dating to 2009.

RORY'S DROUGHT

Now that he has ended one drought, McIlroy takes aim at another. His victory in the Wells Fargo Championship at Quail Hollow was his first in 10 months. Now he gets more questions: Why can't he win a major. It has been more than six years and 23 majors since McIlroy last won a Grand Slam event, at Valhalla in the 2014 PGA Championship. He has been stuck on four majors since then.



FACTS & FIGURES

Event: 103rd PGA Championship
Dates: May 20-23
Site: Kiawah Island GC (Ocean)
Length: 7,838 yards **Par:** 72
Field: 156 players (20 PGA professionals)
Prize money: TBA (\$11M in 2020)
Winner's share: TBA (\$1.98M in 2020)
Defending champion: Collin Morikawa
Last year: Collin Morikawa hit driver to 7 feet for eagle on the par-4 16th hole at Harding Park and closed with a 6-under 64 for a two-shot victory over Dustin Johnson and Paul Casey to capture his first major. The PGA Championship was postponed nearly three months because of the COVID-19 pandemic, and it was the first major championship held with no spectators allowed on the course.

Grand Slam: Jordan Spieth needs to win the PGA Championship to become the sixth player to capture the career Grand Slam. He has not finished in the top 10 in the previous four PGAs when he had a chance to complete the slam.

Kiawah Island history: The Ocean Course was designed by Pete and Alice Dye and is most famous for hosting the 1991 Ryder Cup that was dubbed "War on the Shore." It also hosted the World Cup of Golf in 1997 (Padraig Harrington and Paul McGinley) and 2003 (Trevor Immelman and Rory Sabbatini), before the PGA Championship was won by Rory McIlroy in 2012.

100 years ago: Walter Hagen won the first of his five PGA Championship titles with a 3-and-2 victory over U.S. Open champion Jim Barnes at Inwood Country Club in New York.

The odds: According to FanDuel Sportsbook, Rory McIlroy is the favorite at 10-1. He is followed by Jordan Spieth and Jon Rahm at 12-1, and Bryson Dechambeau, Dustin Johnson and Justin Thomas at 14-1.

Noteworthy: The top 60 in the world after the PGA Championship will be exempt into the U.S. Open.

Key statistic: Americans have won 17 of the last 24 majors, including the last five at the PGA Championship.

Quoteworthy: "This is obviously a huge confidence boost going in there knowing that my game is closer than it has been." — Rory McIlroy on winning his final start before the PGA Championship at Kiawah Island. He has not won a major in nearly seven years.

Television: Thursday-Friday, 1-7 p.m. (ESPN). Saturday-Sunday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (ESPN), 1-7 p.m. (CBS).



Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland reacts to his victory on the 18th green in the final round of the PGA Championship golf tournament on the Ocean Course of the Kiawah Island Golf Resort in Kiawah Island, S.C., in this Aug. 12, 2012, file photo. The PGA is limiting attendance at Kiawah this year to 10,000 fans a day.

Holiday host ready to ban brother from festivities

DEAR ABBY: My brother “Patrick” and I have known “Bobby” for about 20 years. Patrick is closer friends with him because they live in the same town. Recently, we found out that Bobby’s best friend was arrested for child pornography. While Bobby knew nothing about this before the arrest, he still wants to support his friend.

I told Patrick he will no longer be welcome in my home (I host for all the holidays) if he doesn’t cut off all contact with Bobby. My brother says I’m being too harsh because you can disapprove of someone’s behavior and still be a friend. I think that child pornography is morally and ethically wrong and there is no middle ground here. What do you think? Should Bobby have a seat at our table? (He has no other living family.) – NOT WELCOMED IN THE EAST

DEAR NOT WELCOMED: I do not think you should communicate your brother because of something Bobby’s friend did. I believe the Bible says that while you can hate the sin, you should still love the sinner, and that is what Bobby is doing. If you wish to check the reference, you may discover you have a copy somewhere in your home. You can review that chapter with your brother at your holiday table.

DEAR ABBY: I am 35, and my boyfriend is 31. We met at work and moved in together. It has been five years now and still no proposal. I thought we were on the same page, but he just purchased a brand-new muscle car and is only concerned about that, buying new sneakers (he has a sneaker obsession) and making more money. I currently share a rental lease with him and am considering going my separate way in three months, mainly because he is complacent and our relationship has become stagnant. It is going nowhere. Please help. – Hoped For More In Pennsylvania

DEAR HOPED FOR MORE: Getting to know someone takes time. Be glad you have realized this man isn’t husband material before you wasted more time waiting for him to mature. Hang in there until the lease is up, then move resolutely on, parting I hope, as “friends.”

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to my best friend since I was 15. I am now 50. I have never had an orgasm. I want to experience one so badly that I am willing to cheat. We have talked about our sex life, and how it has not been satisfying for me. Please tell me what I can do. – Missing It In Indiana

DEAR MISSING: Before looking for sexual fulfillment outside your marriage, you and your husband should ask your doctor for a referral to a sex therapist. You both married very young, and he may never have learned how to please a woman. This does not mean he isn’t capable of learning. Frankly, because you have never experienced an orgasm, YOU may need some coaching or some “pointers.”

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Dear Abby



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Exuded moisture
- 6 Good brandy
- 12 Manuscript fixer
- 14 Dry gully
- 15 Public esteem
- 16 Tilted
- 17 Chapter-oned girl
- 18 May honoree
- 19 Vane dir.
- 21 Cries at a circus
- 23 Everest or K2
- 26 Dine
- 27 Edgar Allan —
- 28 Jeweler’s unit
- 30 “The Name of the Rose” author
- 31 “— take forever”
- 32 Wipe out data
- 33 Soaring
- 35 Toothpaste type
- 37 Belief
- 38 Delights in

39 Sixth sense, briefly

- 40 Water source
- 41 Change color
- 42 Music media
- 43 Big Ten team
- 44 Forensic sci. tool
- 46 “Exodus” name
- 48 Cover stories
- 51 Egg yolk
- 55 Conclusion
- 56 Addison’s partner
- 57 Narrow crests
- 58 Form a gully

DOWN

- 1 Not ‘neath
- 2 Work by Keats
- 3 Zero
- 4 Piano exercise
- 5 Be too fond
- 6 Reassures
- 7 Two-color cookie

Answer to Previous Puzzle

U	S	E	S	D	E	A	R	S	R	O
L	I	L	T	A	C	H	E	P	A	M
N	O	I	R	M	O	A	N	E	V	A
A	U	D	I	T	S	E	I	D	E	R
X	E	N	A	B	E	D				
		G	R	O	W	L		L	A	W
C	A	P		E	D	I	E	E	P	E
R	A	S	H	O	P	A	L	E	B	B
O	H	I	O		R	E	K	E		
		P	T	S		V	I	S	A	
O	F	F	E	R		K	I	P	P	E
P	A	R				U	R	A	L	
T	I	A		C	O	M	E		E	R
S	L	Y		K	I	T	E		D	E

- 8 Kind of school
- 9 — compos mentis
- 10 Yes, to Angus
- 11 Ocean fish
- 13 Start up a computer again
- 19 Geometry pioneer
- 20 Weird
- 22 Waffled
- 24 Character-istics
- 25 Cruise stop
- 26 Official imprint
- 27 Dents
- 28 Leafy algae
- 29 Weather info
- 34 Horse’s “lunchbox”
- 36 Literary compositions
- 42 Lawyers’ jobs
- 43 Sea tanker
- 45 Giza’s river
- 47 Nerve network
- 48 Kenya’s loc.
- 49 52, to Livy
- 50 Where Terre Haute is
- 52 Writer — Buscaglia
- 53 Primeval
- 54 Itty-bitty

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13		14				
15							16				
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	19	20			21	22		23	24	25	
26				27			28				29
30				31			32				
33			34		35	36			37		
38					39				40		
	41			42				43			
			44	45		46	47				
48	49	50				51			52	53	54
55						56					
57							58				

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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

		4	3			7	1				2
8	9							7			
					4		8			3	
4				6							8
1				7	9	3					4
6							5				1
		5		2		7					
			2						8	7	
7				1	3			5	2		

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION											
7	5	2	3	8	6	4	1	9			
6	3	4	1	9	5	7	2	8			
9	1	8	7	2	4	3	5	6			
4	9	5	2	7	3	6	8	1			
1	7	6	5	4	8	9	3	2			
8	2	3	9	6	1	5	7	4			
3	8	9	6	1	7	2	4	5			
5	6	1	4	3	2	8	9	7			
2	4	7	8	5	9	1	6	3			

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

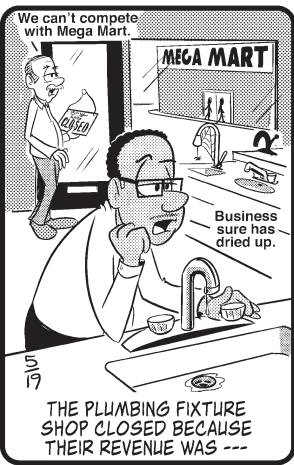
OLGIO
□ □ □ □ □ □
CWEKR
□ □ □ □ □ □
RFYACT
□ □ □ □ □ □
DAINCD
□ □ □ □ □ □
□ □ □ □ □ □ TO □ □ □ □ □ □

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Saturday’s Jumbles: BLISS FRONT HAIRDO ELDEST
Answer: His son was learning how to bite, which made Dracula proud of his — FLESH AND BLOOD

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



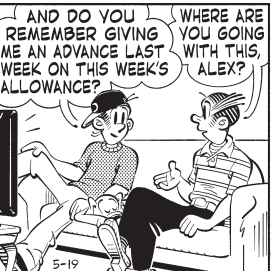
“I’m giving a party and Jeffy is valet-parking the cars.”

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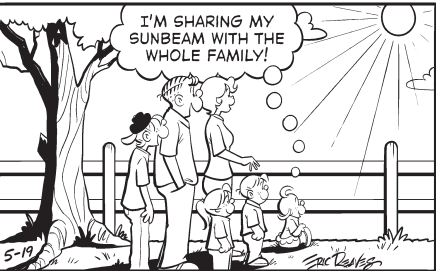
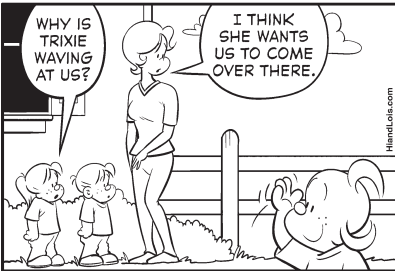
BEETLE BAILEY



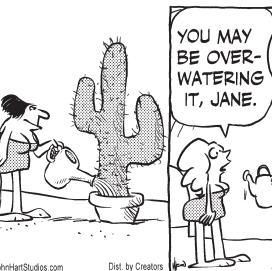
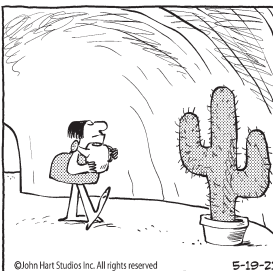
BLONDIE



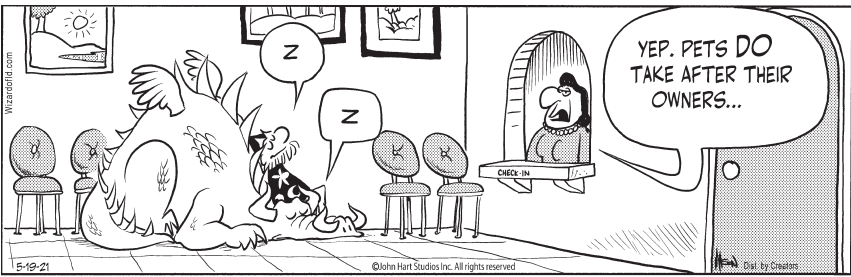
HI & LOIS



BC



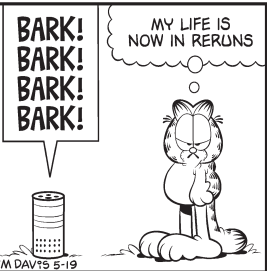
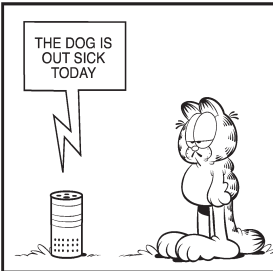
WIZARD OF ID



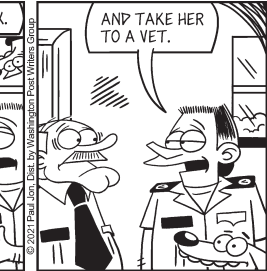
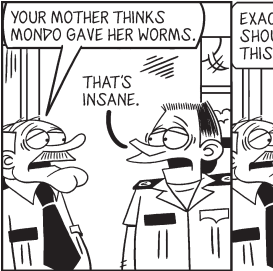
DILBERT



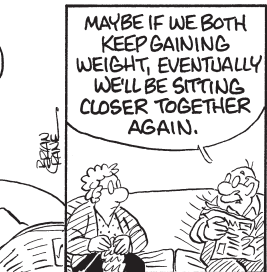
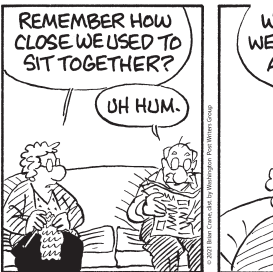
GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



PICKLES



My Answer: A new life begins the moment we say yes to Jesus

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: God made the world and put us in it. Why do we have to change the way we live in order to be saved as long as we do good unto others? — C.W.

A: Many people struggle with whether to receive the forgiveness of Christ and accept His salvation. They want Christ to walk with them, but they don’t really want to walk with Him — along His pathway of forsaking all that goes against the Word of God. We cannot live a good enough life to earn salvation, but when we repent of sin before holy God and receive His free gift of eternal life, He transforms our hearts and gives us a desire to live according to His will. A new life

begins the moment we say yes to Jesus; His Holy Spirit takes up residence in our hearts.

The Bible says it this way: “The mystery... has been revealed to His saints. To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory... which is Christ in you, the hope of glory... that we may present every [one] perfect [complete] in Christ Jesus” (Colossians 1:26-28).

Those who walk according to the ways of the world walk with Satan, and he doesn’t go

out of his way to bother them. But those who are in Christ will become targets of Satan who will use all of his diabolical techniques to thwart and hinder the child of God. This is why it’s vital to walk with Christ, His way. Remember Jesus said, “Follow Me.” As His people persist in Bible study, prayer, and seeking the fellowship of other believers, we begin to grow and treasure the discipline of living as children of light in a very dark world.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“CFKJ X TMKC OV, CFGH CGB
XJHKMKBHXJT NSM ZK CGB HFGH
ZOBXL CGB LSYSM GJW YXNK CGB
TMGP.” — VKHK HSCJBFKJW

Previous Solution: “The way to win an atomic war is to make certain it never starts.” — General Omar N. Bradley

TODAY’S CLUE: Today’s clue is a quote from a famous person.

Opinion

SPEAK UP

How to contact your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
<http://young.senate.gov/contact>

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
<http://braun.senate.gov/>

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-District 2
419 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17
Indiana Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9467
Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. Craig Snow, R-District 18
Indiana House
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9841
h18@in.gov

To email any Indiana lawmaker, go to this website:
www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl

LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplaindealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.

DAILY SCRIPTURE

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:58

America is failing its moral test on vaccines

The United States is well on its way to protecting Americans from the coronavirus. It's time to help the rest of the world. By marshaling this nation's vast resources to produce and distribute enough vaccines to meet global demand, the United States would act in keeping with the nation's best traditions and highest aspirations while advancing its geopolitical and economic interests. It is a moment of both obligation and opportunity.

Unfortunately, instead of a bold, comprehensive strategy to vaccinate the world as quickly as possible, the Biden administration has thus far made a string of tactical decisions: donating millions of doses to countries in need, signaling its support for patent waivers that might expedite vaccine production efforts and nudging two companies – Merck and Johnson & Johnson – to collaborate on increasing supply. These are good steps, but they are not nearly sufficient to meet the moment. The United States and the rest of the world's wealthiest nations are facing a great moral challenge.

Covax, the World Health Organization's initiative to pool vaccine resources, remains profoundly underfunded and has failed to meet even its modest target of vaccinating one-fifth of the population in the Global South. Without a major course correction, the rest of the world will have to wait until 2023 or later for large-scale vaccination initiatives like the one underway in the United

States. The consequences of this disparity are expected to be severe. Hundreds of thousands more people will get sick and die from a disease that is now preventable with a vaccine. The global economy will contract by trillions of dollars, according to the International Chamber of Commerce, and tens of millions of people will plummet into extreme poverty as the virus continues to fester and evolve in the world's more vulnerable reaches.

As global hunger rises and global life expectancy falls, instability will prevail. Already, Colombia is mired in deadly protests over the pandemic's economic fallout. India is facing its gravest humanitarian catastrophe in a generation. As the United Nations has warned, a similar crisis in Syria would be catastrophic.

President Biden can start by announcing that the United States intends to help and by appointing a vaccine czar to oversee the expansion of vaccine production. The federal government has ample legal power to compel the participation of the pharmaceutical companies, including the sharing of critical information and technologies. Congress has appropriated \$16 billion to scale up production, most of which remains unspent.

Increasing manufacturing capacity has proved tricky. The global demand for vaccines may be high now, but once the coronavirus pandemic recedes, it will plummet back to normal levels.

Increased public ownership, for its part, would ensure that vaccine-production capacity is ready for future pandemics, which are inevitable – potentially including new coronavirus variants for which routine boosters may be required.

To this end, the administration should consider taking a page from the Department of Energy playbook: Create publicly owned manufacturing facilities and contract with private companies to run them. (Several of the D.O.E.'s federally owned laboratories are run by private companies like General Electric and Bechtel.)

The H.I.V. advocacy group PrEP4All estimates that for \$4 billion – less than the country is spending per day on coronavirus response efforts – the federal government could build enough manufacturing capacity to vaccinate the entire planet against the coronavirus. It will cost much more to actually make the needed doses, of course. The nonprofit advocacy group Public Citizen estimates that a \$25 billion governmentwide initiative would produce around eight billion doses of mRNA vaccine, or enough to vaccinate half the planet. That's far less than the trillions that could be lost if the economy contracts further as the pandemic persists.

Mr. Biden could task his Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority, or BARDA, with setting the parameters of any final program. But it would also make sense for

the United States to start by focusing its global efforts on the mRNA vaccine created by Moderna and the National Institutes of Health: mRNA shots are both cheaper and easier to manufacture in massive quantities and should be much easier to modify as new variants emerge and regular boosters become a necessity. What's more, the federal government has already invested heavily in the Moderna shot, which does not require deep-freeze storage, as Pfizer's mRNA vaccine does.

Efforts to dramatically increase domestic production should be paired with efforts to do the same elsewhere. The coronavirus is here to stay for the foreseeable future. If new variants require different boosters and localized outbreaks require rapid response, it will be far easier to manage those eventualities with regionally concentrated supplies. That kind of distributed capacity will also leave the world much better prepared for future pandemics.

Low- and middle-income countries have been clamoring for the chance to manufacture their own doses – many of them have infrastructure that could be repurposed, and expertise making other complicated pharmaceuticals that could be built upon. If wealthier nations are concerned about those countries' ability to manage this challenge safely or quickly, they should step in to help. This worked before. The 2004 BARDA initiative to increase flu vaccine production in low-income

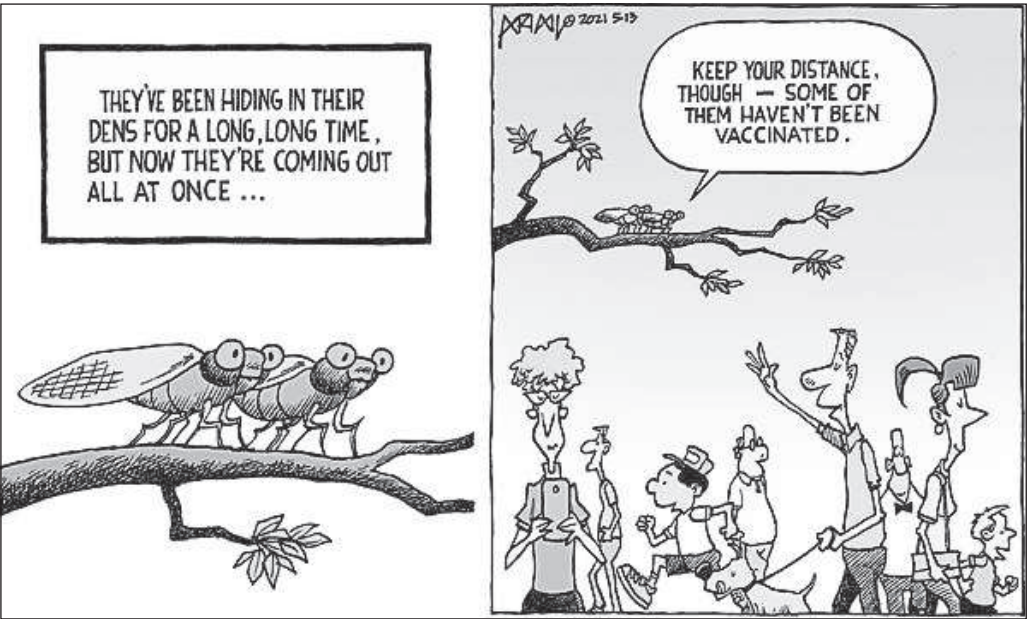
countries achieved a fivefold increase since the program began. While the work was hard, the strategy was simple: Invest in companies in low-income countries, help them build facilities and support them as they cultivate expertise.

Likewise, PEPFAR, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, offers a road map for how to manage vaccine rollout in lower-income countries. Since its start in 2003, the initiative has saved an estimated 20 million lives and brought that epidemic under control in several countries, thanks to sustained investment and rigorous on-the-ground support.

The upcoming Group of 7 meeting offers a perfect opportunity for Mr. Biden to push other high-income nations to also step up their contributions to global vaccination efforts. A global vaccine summit – where world leaders and vaccine makers could work out a concrete plan for sharing technology and scaling up manufacturing efforts to meet global needs – would also be useful.

Vaccinating the globe will require leadership and a level of international cooperation that many people may consider impossible. But if the United States provides that leadership and demands that cooperation, millions of lives will be saved, and the world will have a new template for solving some of the many challenges that transcend our borders.

This editorial was first published in The New York Times.



A neighborhood political count

I still take the Sunday New York Times, though God knows why; I never actually read it anymore. Its motto should probably be changed to "All the news that fits one side of the narrative." The newspaper has taken sides in the ongoing cultural-political war, and I don't want to subject myself to its abdication of journalistic integrity.

I still stumble across its online stories on occasion, however, and I saw one last week that got more of my attention than I really wanted to give it. "Do you live in a political bubble?" was the provocative headline.

"One in three Americans are completely isolated from the opposite party," the story said. "Republicans and Democrats are increasingly isolated from each other, rhetorically and geographically."

There is the Bay Area, for example, "the country's most Democratic enclave," where the election of Donald Trump must have been quite a shock. On the other hand, the residents of Gillette, Wyo., "where about 9 out of 10 voters are Republicans, might have equally been shocked by President Biden's victory."

See what I mean? Having invested so much in the country's bitter division, the Times wants to make sure people never forget which side they are on.

I should have left the story after those few paragraphs, but, unfortunately for me, it included an interactive map. I am a sucker for interactive maps. Just ask anybody.

If I entered my address, the story

said, the map would tell me how the 1,000 people nearest me vote and I could discover if indeed I live in a political bubble.

I did, of course – that's what suckers do.

"Many of your neighbors – 64 percent – are Democrats," the map told me. "You don't quite live in a bubble, but we wouldn't say your neighbors are politically diverse, either."

Not a big surprise to me, actually. Though I live in one of the reddest states, with a Republican governor and GOP supermajorities in both legislative chambers, my house is in a neighborhood near downtown Fort Wayne. We all know Democrats like to huddle together, dutifully sorting out their recyclables and regretfully calling Uber when their beloved mass transit lets them down.

The Republicans flee to the newest suburban haven as soon as they can, to escape the filth, crime and drugs the Democrats don't seem to mind, where their children can walk safely through nearly treeless streets fronting the houses that all look the same.

Just like the map tells me: "There's a ZIP code eight miles away from you where only 23 percent of the average Republican's neighbors are Democrats."

I'm not sure what an "average" Republican is, but I get the point. Out there in the 'burbs beats the true conservative heart of Hoosierland.

Even without the map's help, I could have pretty accurately estimated my neighborhood's makeup, just by counting masks.

Everything has become political these days, the science of public health included – thank you, New York Times – and we all know now that Democrats love wearing their masks and Republicans hate it.

I even heard the other day about a Democrat who had been fully vaccinated and knew he was safe, but always double-masked, even outside, because he didn't want to be mistaken for a Republican. And can you imagine the cognitive dissonance of the germophobic Republican who never takes his mask off despite being shunned by his judgmental suburban cronies?

Is it futile to ask that we try to keep neighborhoods as one of civilization's most reliable redoubts, fortresses to which we can retreat, leaving all the frustrations and fears of the real world outside?

Call me old-fashioned. I don't care whether my neighbors are Democrat or Republican, Presbyterian or Muslim, gay or straight. I just care whether they are casually friendly, keep their yards up and don't try to sell me candy to fund band camp.

And I want to judge them in the conventional, time-honored way, with but a glance through the filter of my prejudices and preconceptions,

That young guy with visitors at all hours – has to be a drug dealer. That old woman alone – bet she has a dozen cats. That young, frazzled couple – their holy terror kids better stay off my lawn.

And that prickly geezer, the one everybody wonders about, who parks in the back and is seldom seen at the front door, with two months' worth of Sunday New York Times on the porch ...

Oh, wait. That's me.

Yes, I voted. Don't ask me for whom, and I won't tell.

Leo Morris, columnist for The Indiana Policy Review, is winner of the Hoosier Press Association's award for Best Editorial Writer. Morris, as opinion editor of the Fort Wayne News-Sentinel, was named a finalist in editorial writing by the Pulitzer Prize committee. Contact him at leoedits@yahoo.com.

LETTERS

Legislators must fund 988

May is Mental Health Month. By urging my public officials to prioritize suicide prevention, mental health, and crisis care, I am hoping to influence collective change to support #MentalHealth4All.

Right now, individuals in crisis can call 800-273-8255 to reach the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. The Lifeline provides free and confidential support 24 hours per day, seven days per week for people in distress and those that care for them. Soon, it will be much easier to remember how to reach the Lifeline as the number will be changing to "988" nationwide by July 2022.

Knowing this, it is critically important that states pass legislation now to reliably fund 988 and their state's crisis response system, just as we fund 911 and emergency services – through small fees on our phone bills. Reliable funding will help to ensure all 988 callers can reach a counselor in their state who is familiar with and can connect them with local resources. Culturally competent support and local connections can better help all callers through their crisis and in their recovery.

I have lost too many friends to suicide to ignore mental health any longer. We need to stand up and end the stigma attached to mental health supports and care. We need to create real and lasting change in our society to help all people in need of mental health support. The world needs you and me and everyone else. Without every one of us, we will not succeed. You are needed. You are important. Fight for your life and the lives of others.

Join me this month in urging your public officials to fund 988. We all play a role in changing the culture around mental health. Together, we can ensure #MentalHealth4All.

Levi Wagner Anderson

President Biden and Secretary Blinken did the right thing

President Biden and Secretary Blinken did the right thing by putting American interests first and extending the waiver of Section 907 of the Freedom Support Act despite the pressure from the Armenian lobby. It is important to continue assisting Azerbaijan, one of the only U.S. and NATO partners in the Caucasus and Caspian regions, in its counter-terrorism efforts.

For many years, Azerbaijan has served as a transit point for resupplying U.S. and NATO troops. At the peak of the war in Afghanistan, more than 30 percent of U.S. non-lethal military supplies such as fuel, food, and clothing passed through Azerbaijan either by land or air. Azerbaijan plays an important role in supporting the operational readiness of the U.S. Armed Forces and coalition partners to counter international terrorism.

It is also time to consider a complete repeal of Section 907 in the face of growing danger from Russia and Iran. It is time we put American interests above the interests of Armenian lobby organizations. It is time we correct our mistake and repeal Section 907.

Naida Khalilova Fort Wayne



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By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the
Clerk of Circuit Court of Wabash County, Indiana, in Cause No.
85C01-2011-MF-761 wherein Beacon Credit Union was Plaintiff,
and Barry B. Miller and Midland Credit Management, Inc., were
Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said
Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the
highest bidder, on the 8th day of June, 2021, at the hour of 10:00
a.m. or as soon thereafter as is possible, at the Wabash County
Sheriff's Office at 79 West Main St., Wabash, IN 46992, the fee
simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Wabash County, Indi-
ana. Part of the North half of the Southeast Quarter of Indian Re-
serve number 23, Township 27 North, Range 6 East, Wabash
County, Indiana, being more particularly described as follows:
Commencing at the southeast corner of Outlot number One (1) of
Root's Addition, as recorded on pages 183-184 of Plat Book num-
ber 2 in the records of the office of the Wabash County, Indiana
Recorder; thence North 89 degrees 40 minutes 58 seconds West
(assumed bearing), along the south line of said Root's Addition,
366.25 feet to the northwest corner of a tract of land now (or
formerly) owned by Phillip R. Penn and Melanie Penn as recor-
ded on page 109-110 of deed record 310 in the records of said
Recorder's Office and the POINT OF BEGINNING, being marked
by an iron rebar stake with a plastic cap stamped LS80040428;
thence South 00 degrees 07 minutes 51 seconds East, along said
Penn boundary, 168.91 feet to the northerly right of way line of
Sivey Court and the point of curvature of a non-tangent curve to
the right; thence northwesterly, along said right of way line and
a curve having a radius of 25.00 feet, an arc length of 5.49 feet and
subtended by a chord bearing North 46 degrees 37 minutes 06
seconds West, 5.48 feet to the point of reverse curvature of a
curve to the left; thence westerly, along said right of way line, and
a curve having a radius of 50.00 feet, an arc length of 89.32 feet
and subtended by a chord bearing South 88 degrees 29 minutes
19 seconds West, 77.90 feet to an iron rebar stake with a plastic
cap stamped LS80040428; thence North 52 degrees 41 minutes
10 seconds West, 33.82 feet to an iron rebar stake with a plastic
cap stamped LS80040428; thence North 01 degrees 12 minutes
36 seconds West, 114.35 feet to an iron rebar stake with a plastic
cap stamped LS80040428 on the southerly boundary of a tract of
land now (or formerly) owned by Larry K. Miller et al as recorded
on Document #2005R3898345 in the records of said Recorder's
Office; thence South 89 degrees 40 minutes 58 seconds East,
along said Miller boundary, 47.25 feet to an iron rebar stake with
a plastic cap stamped LS80040428 on the easterly boundary of said
Miller tract; thence North 01 degree 12 minutes 36 seconds West,
along said Miller boundary, 33.00 feet to the southerly boundary of
Outlot number Three (3) in said Root's Addition; thence South 89
degrees 40 minutes 58 seconds East, along the south line of said
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taining 0.36 of an acre, more or less.
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Ryan Baker, Sheriff of Wabash County
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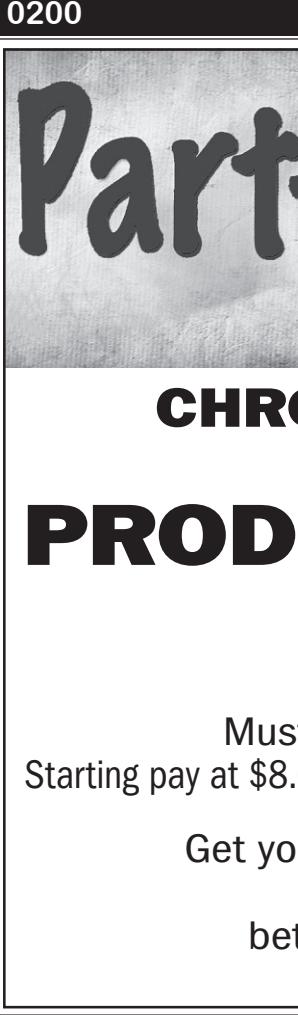
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Israel, Gaza violence overshadows Biden’s domestic plans

By JONATHAN LEMIRE, DARLENE SUPERVILLE and JOSH BOAK
Associated Press

DEARBORN, Mich. — President Joe Biden’s efforts to spotlight his big infrastructure plans are suddenly being overshadowed by the escalating violence between Israel and the Palestinians, the conflict sparking protests during his visit to a Ford electric vehicle center in Michigan on Tuesday as the White House faced growing pressure to intervene.

Biden, who planned to use the two week-stretch before Memorial Day to build Republican support for his \$2.3 trillion package, visited a Ford plant in Dearborn on Tuesday to make his case that his plans could help steer the country toward a bright electric-car future.

But any presidential script is subject to real-world rewrites, and Biden faces rising pressure to weigh in more forcefully to stop the Middle East

violence — as, by a scheduling quirk, he visited a city that is almost half Arab American.

The Ford Rouge plant is in a section of Dearborn that’s estimated to be more than 90 percent Arab American Muslim, many of the locals strong supporters of Palestinians. Significant protests took place across the city while Biden was there.

In a speech at the plant, Biden made only passing mention of the conflict, warmly addressing Michigan Rep. Rashida Tlaib, as she sat in the audience, saying he would pray that her grandmother and other family were well in the West Bank.

“I promise you I’m going to do everything to see that they are,” said Biden, who met Tlaib and fellow Michigan Democratic Rep. Debbie Dingell earlier at the Detroit airport where all three huddled in conversation on the tarmac for several minutes.

The Biden administration has been conducting what it calls quiet diplomacy while

declining to press for an immediate cease-fire by close ally Israel and Hamas. But privately, Biden administration officials have encouraged the Israelis to wind down their bombardment of Gaza.

Officials have been told by the Israelis that the operations could conclude in a matter of days.

The White House has made the calculation the Israelis will not respond to international resolutions or public demands by the U.S. and that the greatest leverage is behind-the-scenes pressure, officials said. At the same time, the White House is mindful that the longer the conflict goes, the greater chance of a very-high-casualty event or other provocative action by either side that could make reaching a cease-fire more difficult.

All the while, Hamas rockets and Israeli airstrikes continued for a ninth day. At least 213 Palestinians and 12 people in Israel have died.

To this point in Biden’s young term, foreign policy has taken a backseat. The president has stressed the need to first focus on domestic matters — taming the COVID-19 pandemic and reshaping the economy — to prove that democracies can still compete with global autocracies, namely China.

But the intractable conflict in Gaza has derailed that narrative.

Aboard Air Force One for the flight to Michigan, White House press secretary Jen Psaki was peppered with questions about the administration’s response to the violence before she was asked about electric cars. She defended Biden’s cautious approach to this point.

“He’s been doing this long enough to know that the best way to end an international conflict is typically not to debate it in public,” she said.

During his tour of the Dearborn facilities Biden kept the focus on jobs, the car enthusiast marveling at new tech-

nology — he even took a truck for a quick test drive — while stressing the importance of his infrastructure plan.

“The future of the auto industry is electric. There’s no turning back,” Biden said. “The real question is whether we’ll lead or we’ll fall behind in the race to the future.”

There were protests outside in Dearborn, which is 47 percent Arab American, most of them Muslim, the highest percentage among cities in the U.S. Outside the local police department, about three miles from where Biden spoke, hundreds of people of Arab descent chanted, “Free, Free Palestine!” and waved Palestine flags. Amer Zahr, leader of a group called New Generation for Palestine, said Biden is “not welcome in Dearborn today.”

“He is funding the murder of our families,” Zahr said. “It’s ethnic cleansing. It’s that simple. This is not very complicated.”

Biden wanted to orient his foreign policy around Amer-

ican workers, but the Israel conflict has underscored the challenges in combining his domestic and international agendas. The violence has not just been a disrupter of his messaging but also of his policy foundations.

The Biden White House has prided itself on message control and carefully scripting its approach to legislation. The first two months of his term were focused on passing the \$1.9 trillion COVID relief bill and dramatically increasing the nation’s vaccination program.

The pivot was then to Biden’s two-part infrastructure and family plan, which totals roughly \$4 trillion. The president has set a soft deadline of Memorial Day to gauge whether there is Republican support. Not one GOP lawmaker backed the COVID bill, though it had strong public support. There have been a few, if fleeting, signs of possible Republican support for the infrastructure plan.

Conservatives push big issues to fore at Supreme Court

By MARK SHERMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Abortion. Guns. Religion. A Trump-fortified conservative majority is making its presence felt at the Supreme Court by quickly wading into high-profile social issues that have been a goal of the right for decades.

For years, frustrated conservatives, including some justices, chided a court with a majority of Republican appointees for not going far enough or passing on issues they thought demanded the court’s attention.

Now, with three appointees of former President Donald Trump on the nine-member court, longer-serving conservative Justices Samuel Alito and Clarence Thomas can cobble together five-justice majorities even without the vote of Chief Justice John Roberts.

The Trump-appointed justices represent “not only a shift of ideology but a shift of power. There are five justices to right of Roberts,” said Boston College law professor Kent Greenfield. “What that means is that the chief is not in control of the court anymore.”

In the seven months since Justice Amy Coney Barrett joined the court, conservative majorities have issued a series of orders in favor of religious worshippers who had challenged restrictions imposed because of COVID-19.

Barrett provided the fifth vote in several cases. Roberts has been unwilling to second guess elected officials in these cases and, prior to her death in September, Ginsburg also had voted to keep the restrictions on religious services in place.

Perhaps even more significant are the culture war issues that the court will, in all likelihood, rule on in the spring of 2022, in the run up to the congressional mid-term elections. The justices announced Monday that they will hear an abortion case that could undermine nearly 50 years of abortion rights rulings and agreed last month to decide whether Americans have a constitutional right to carry guns in public for self-defense.

Waiting in the wings is a direct challenge to affirmative action in college admissions, in a case, involving Harvard, that calls on the court to reverse a 2003 ruling upholding race as a permissible factor in admissions. A vote to hear that case next term could come before the court takes its long summer break.

A decision to hear a case takes just four votes and is no guarantee of its outcome. But on guns and abortion in particular, the court with a less-conservative lineup passed up several opportunities to wade in.

Thomas, the longest-serving current justice, has long complained about his colleagues’ timidity on these topics. For nearly 30 years, he has called on the court to overturn the landmark Roe v. Wade decision that extended abortion rights across the country. He was one of four justices who would have overturned Roe in 1992, in his first term on the court.

Instead, a five-member majority composed entirely of justices appointed by Republican presidents reaffirmed constitutional protections for women seeking abortions.

On guns, Thomas has lamented that his colleagues treat the Second Amend-

ment “right to keep and bear arms” as a second-class right, a phrase that Barrett herself used when she was an appeals court judge.

The court’s shift to the right grows out of two untimely deaths and one crucial retirement.

It began five years ago, when Justice Antonin Scalia died suddenly and Senate Republicans refused to act on President Barack Obama’s nomination of Merrick Garland to take Scalia’s seat. Had Garland, now the attorney general, been confirmed, it would have given the court a majority appointed by Democratic presidents for the first time in 50 years.

Instead, the seat remained empty, Trump shocked the world by winning the presidency and Justice Neil Gorsuch joined the court in April 2017.

A year later the court’s “swing vote,” Justice Anthony Kennedy, retired and Trump put Justice Brett Kavanaugh in his seat.

Kennedy’s retirement essentially put Roberts at the ideological, though right-leaning, center of the court, and the chief justice has resisted public perceptions of the court as merely a political institution. He has voted with the liberal justices to uphold the Obama era health care law and strike down a Louisiana abortion regulation.

But Ginsburg’s death, which led to Barrett’s confirmation days before the 2020 election, ended a brief period in which Roberts controlled how far the court would go in either direction.

Trump had pledged to nominate “pro-life justices” and predicted back in 2016 that with three appointments, “Roe would be gone.”

in the future, and safeguards sensitive executive branch prerogatives,” Nadler said in a news release.

Ross Garber, who teaches political investigations and impeachment at Tulane Law School, said the House’s Trump-era investigation tactics have resulted in an erosion of congressional oversight and impeachment authority.

“In the McGahn saga, the House was ham-handed, reached no prompt deal on accommodation, took many months to seek enforcement of its subpoena, did little to try to expedite the case, and ultimately settled for nothing,” Garber said.

Jonathan Turley, a law professor at George Washington University who was a Republican-called witness during a December 2019 committee impeachment hearing, said he wasn’t sure why Nadler was so pleased and called it making a “sow’s ear into a silk purse.”

“The result is that his testi-

By MARY CLARE JALONICK
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Colorado Rep. Jason Crow, a former Army Ranger who served three tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, says it took time for him to stop constantly scanning his environment for threats when he returned from war 15 years ago. But after the violent insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, he says he’s picked the habit up again.

Crow was trapped with several other members of Congress in the upper gallery of the U.S. House that day while a mob of President Donald Trump’s supporters tried to beat down the doors to the chamber and stop the certification of President Joe Biden’s victory.

Crow says he never would have thought “in a million years” he’d be in that situation in the Capitol, but some of his old training has since kicked in, like looking in his rear-view mirror and assessing if people around him might be carrying a gun. Like almost every other member of Congress, his office has received threats against his life.

“There’s no doubt that members are on edge right now,” Crow says, and the threats from outside “are unfortunately the reality of congressional life.”

Those threats have more than doubled this year, according to the U.S. Capitol Police, and many members of Congress say they fear for their personal safety more than they did before the siege. Several say they have boosted security measures to protect themselves and their families, money for which will be part of a broad \$1.9 billion spending bill that the House will vote on this week, along with a separate measure that would create a bipartisan commission to investigate the Jan. 6

attack. Democrats, in particular, say both bills are crucial to try to reconcile the trauma that many still feel.

“This was an armed assault on our democracy, and I’m a witness — I’m a victim and a witness to it,” says New Hampshire Rep. Annie Kuster. She received treatment for post-traumatic stress after she was also trapped in the House gallery that day and heard rioters trying to break through the doors close to where she was hiding.

Kuster says she thought she was going to die before officers cleared the hallways and hustled her and others out. “I think we need a full investigation with a Jan. 6th commission, and I believe that the Capitol Police who saved our lives that day deserve more support,” she says.

Democrats say a bipartisan commission investigating the attack, including what led to it, is more important than ever after some Republicans have recently started to downplay the severity of the insurrection, portraying the rioters who brutally beat officers with flagpoles and other weapons and broke into the Capitol through windows and doors as peaceful patriots.

Many Republicans who initially condemned Trump for telling his supporters to “fight like hell” that day have increasingly stayed quiet on his repeated false claims that the election was stolen, even though that was rebuked by numerous courts, bipartisan election officials across the country and Trump’s own attorney general. House Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy said Tuesday he would oppose the commission, calling it “duplicative and potentially counterproductive.”

Rep. Andrew Clyde, R-Ga., said at a hearing last week that a video feed of the rioters looked like they were on

a “normal tourist visit.” Rep. Paul Gosar, R-Ariz., said a woman who was shot and killed by police as she tried to break through a window adjacent to the House chamber was “executed,” and he argued that the Justice Department is harassing those who have been arrested.

Michigan Rep. Dan Kildee, a Democrat who also says he suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder after the attack, said those comments were “really hard to take” after witnessing the insurrection. He says he’s received an increased number of threats since January, especially when he has spoken on TV about treatment he received in the aftermath. Some of the calls and messages are specific and credible threats, he says, while many others are “abusive, threatening type language.”

The security spending bill would provide congressional offices with more money to combat those threats, including enhanced travel security, upgrades to home-district offices and better intelligence to track people down. The bill would also “harden” the complex by reinforcing doors and windows, adding security vestibules and cameras and providing dollars for removable fencing that could quickly be erected during a threatening situation while leaving the Capitol open to visitors.

Like many members, Republican Rep. Rodney Davis of Illinois says he feels as if the threats are more acute in his home district, where there is less security. On Capitol Hill, lawmakers are currently protected by a tall fence and National Guard troops who have been there since Jan. 6. Members are “as safe as ever” there, he says, but “it’s those times when you’re not in the Capitol, I think that’s where the threats seem to emanate from the most.”

House Dems get little from Trump-era subpoena fight

By TODD RUGER
CQ-Roll Call (TNS)

WASHINGTON — Two years ago, in the middle of President Donald Trump’s broader oppose-all-the-subpoenas stance in ongoing investigations, House Democrats focused on one lawsuit that could pave the way for Congress to more easily and quickly enforce congressional subpoenas in court.

But that House Judiciary legal push is now poised to fizzle out in a way that does little to bolster congressional oversight, and might have actually weakened it, legal experts say.

The House Judiciary Committee told a court last week that it came to an agreement to obtain information from former White House counsel Don McGahn, an end to a separation-of-powers clash that created a court ruling last year that Speaker Nancy Pelosi described as a threat “to strike a grave blow” to congressional oversight.

McGahn will be interviewed about events depicted in the report from former special counsel Robert S. Mueller III released in April 2019, per the agreement. But the interview will be closed, limited to publicly available portions of the report, and with the Justice Department there to direct him not to answer questions.

House Judiciary Chairman Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., said the McGahn agreement brings the era of Trump’s “unprecedented obstruction” to an end. Trump had said McGahn and other aides had “absolute immunity” from subpoenas that required them to testify before committees.

“The law requires that when there is a dispute in court between the legislative and executive branches, the two must work in good faith to find a compromise — and I am pleased that we have reached an arrangement that satisfies our subpoena, protects the Committee’s constitutional duty to conduct oversight

in the future, and safeguards sensitive executive branch prerogatives,” Nadler said in a news release.

Ross Garber, who teaches political investigations and impeachment at Tulane Law School, said the House’s Trump-era investigation tactics have resulted in an erosion of congressional oversight and impeachment authority.

“In the McGahn saga, the House was ham-handed, reached no prompt deal on accommodation, took many months to seek enforcement of its subpoena, did little to try to expedite the case, and ultimately settled for nothing,” Garber said.

Jonathan Turley, a law professor at George Washington University who was a Republican-called witness during a December 2019 committee impeachment hearing, said he wasn’t sure why Nadler was so pleased and called it making a “sow’s ear into a silk purse.”

“The result is that his testi-

mony may yield little new information,” Turley said of the McGahn agreement. “Indeed, the agreement is designed to stay within the confines of what is already known.”

And any information comes long after the political moment for it has passed. Since the Mueller report, there have been two impeachments of Trump, a global pandemic and a violent insurrection against the Capitol by Trump supporters. Trump is no longer president and lives in Florida.

New playbook
The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit was set to hear oral arguments on one part of the case this week, part of the drawn-out court fight that benefits the executive branch by stretching it past its political relevance.

“There is now a clear playbook for any current or former executive branch official who wants to resist a House subpoena,” Garber said.

Thomas Hungar, a former

House general counsel and now an attorney at the Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher law firm, said the executive branch already had such a playbook on hand, but the McGahn case “confirms that their playbook is a good one and it’s effective.”

The Judiciary Committee did gain some ground out of the McGahn case, with a D.C. Circuit ruling that found it had the right to file such a lawsuit to enforce a subpoena.

But the most recent ruling went against the House. A three-judge panel of the D.C. Circuit concluded last year that Congress first needs to pass a law to authorize the committee to file the lawsuit — essentially stopping the case and others like it.

Pelosi, at the time, said in a news release that the panel decision “represents a direct challenge to our Constitution’s system of checks and balances and therefore to our very Democracy, particularly in light of this Administra-

tion’s blanket defiance and obstruction of Congress’s constitutional legislative oversight authority.”

The House appealed it to the full D.C. Circuit, which had wiped out that panel ruling in preparation to make a decision with all the judges. That full appeals court was set to hear oral arguments about it Wednesday.

Now, that won’t happen because of the agreement. McGahn and the committee will ask the D.C. Circuit to essentially pretend that the panel ruling against the Judiciary Committee didn’t happen.

But even if that panel decision stays vacated, “the Justice Department is absolutely going to be relying on this argument, every time this issue comes up in the future,” Hungar said.

Hungar called it “unfortunate” that the House didn’t take that next step because he thinks the D.C. Circuit would have sided with the Judiciary Committee.



Provided photo

The new flat playground was finally installed Thursday, May 13.

PLAYGROUND

From page A1

youth programming and resources,” said Morbitzer. “I also want to thank EduMarking USA, who gave us discounts and made it possible for us to afford this exciting addition to library

property.”

Hann said rubber playground balls, dice, beanbags and spinners will be made available to playground users at the circulation desk and were purchased with funds from the Tammy Seifert Memorial Fund.

“EduMarking uses a thermoplastic surface for the

playground designs that is non-toxic, non-slip and long-lasting,” said Hann. “It is designed to withstand changing weather conditions and years of play.”

For more information, visit www.nman.lib.in.us.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

FOOD

From page A1

the first few weeks to find the appropriate number of meals to prepare,” said Langebartels. “While the aim is to make enough meals for all who desire them, it is possible during the beginning weeks that meals may run out. The community’s understanding is much appreciated as the staff work through these initial details.”

Langebartels said because they are not requiring sign-ups, the first few weeks would “be a bit of an experiment.”

“We are not sure how many to expect, which is why we are asking families to have flexibility in the first few weeks as our staff figures out the appropriate amount of meals to prepare,” said Langebartels.

Langebartels said the meals will be reimbursed through a program offered by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

“This was the same for the

meals that were provided last spring and summer during school closures,” said Langebartels. “The USDA has extended its offering of free breakfasts and lunches through the upcoming 2021-22 school year. We are so thankful they have chosen to do so. This means that students in our schools will not have to pay for one breakfast and one lunch every day that school is in session, regards of their financial status.”

On April 26, the USDA announced they would be expanding Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) benefits.

“Summer months are difficult for low-income children because they lack access to school meals that fill a nutrition gap during the school year,” stated the USDA. “When school is out of session, summer feeding programs – considered a lifeline for some families – reach just a small fraction, typically less than 20 percent, of the number

served during the school year. This summer, USDA will offer P-EBT benefits to all low-income children of all ages, helping families put food on the table during the COVID-19 pandemic.”

P-EBT was established in March 2020 to provide food dollars to families to make up for meals missed when schools

PATROLS

From page A1

Gavelek said the WCSD received a \$12,000 grant, which will be used to pay for the extra patrols during the Click It or Ticket campaign, along with four other police mobilizations.

“Since the program is reimbursement-based and some of the funding can be used for continued enforcement throughout the year, we can’t give you an exact amount of how much will be spent during Click It or Ticket,” said Gavelek.

Gavelek said the same was true for the WPD, which received \$5,000.

“Again, that will help pay for Click It or Ticket and four other police mobilizations throughout the year,” said Gavelek.

Gavelek said these other mobilizations included Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over, March Enforcement Campaign, Safe Holiday Travel and the Stop Arm Violation Enforcement campaign.

Gavelek said on average, more than 90 percent of motorists can be found wearing their seat belts on any given day.

“Unfortunately, the small percentage of people who choose not to buckle up make up a disproportionate amount of the fatalities that occur every year on Indiana roads,” said Gavelek.

Between 2015 and 2019, seat belts have saved more than 69,000 lives in the U.S., according to NHTSA.

“Despite knowing the benefits, people still refuse to buckle up, a choice that too often can end in tragedy,” said Gavelek.

Last year, more than 800 people were killed on Indiana roads, of which, 565 occurred in passenger vehicles. Sadly, 364 of those, or 6 out of 10, were not wearing seat belts.

Out of any age group, male drivers, particularly those between the ages of 15 and 34, were the most likely to be found not wearing a seat belt at the time of a crash. Additionally, individuals not wearing seat belts were

three times more likely to get injured in a crash when the driver was speeding and seven times more likely when the driver was impaired.

According to the ICJI, officers will be writing citations and conducting high-visibility patrols during the day but especially at night, when unrestrained driving is at its peak from midnight to 4 a.m.

“Throughout the campaign, officers will be taking a no-excuses approach to seat belt enforcement, which means anyone caught not wearing one will receive a citation,” said Gavelek.

Parents and caregivers can choose the safest car seat for their child by visiting therightseat.com, or to find a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician, who can inspect and assist with the installation of a car seat, visit www.childseat.in.gov.

For more information, visit www.nhtsa.gov/ciot.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

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